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## American Iris Society

Number 237 
April 1980



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#### THE BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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Editor-in-Chief: Ann Branch Dasch, 726 Diane Ave., Stockton, CA 95207 Tel. (209) 952-3845

Associate Editor: Philip Edinger, P.O. Box 637, Cloverdale, CA 95425 Advertising Editor: Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, NE 68137 Tel. (402) 895-9112

Managing Editor: Phillip Williams, P.O. Box 41, Eagleville, TN 37060

Editorial Committee: Ben R. Hager, Julius Wadekamper, W. George Waters, Betty Wood

Departments & Editors: Domestic News - Fred Stephenson, 5608 Merriman

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Foreign News - Bee Warburton, 2 Warburton Lane,

Westboro, MA 01581

Science - Sidney DuBose, 309 Best Rd. South, Stock-

ton, CA 95205

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- Communications concerning the business matters of the Society should be addressed to Mrs. R. V.

Ramsey, 6518 Beachy Ave., Wichita, KS 67206.

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Public Relations: Olive Rice, 1914 Napa Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707

Registrations: Keith Keppel, P.O. Box 8173, Stockton, CA 95208. Send all registration applications and \$5.00, payable to AIS, to registrar Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, NE 68137

Robins: Mrs. Mary Alice Hembree, 951 Brown Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08807

RVP Counsellor: Dr. Harold L. Stahly, 8343 Manchester Dr., Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Scientific: Julius Wadekamper, 10078 1545th Ave., Elk River, MN 55330

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Cover: Larry Harder's photograph of LEMON MIST demonstrates its elegant warmth that placed Nathan Rudolph's creation as first runner-up in the Dykes Medal balloting in both '78 and '79.

#### From the President's Desk

The Society has gained momentum in recent years. I know that you will want to do your very best to keep that momentum alive. We have not been without problems, but together we have been able to solve them or find alternatives that allowed us to operate with improved efficiency. At the same time we were giving maximum service to our members. Some of the frills were necessarily eliminated and the burden of expenses has been shifted, to some degree, to those who utilize the maximum services offered.

I feel this is as it should be. I am hopeful that every member can feel that he receives as much as he pays for or more. You can be assured that those in positions of leadership are doing their part and many are doing this at personal financial sacrifice. This is to remind you that all those who make sacrifices of time, money and energy do so willingly and ask only that others cooperate so that the Society prospers in numbers and finances in order to actively pursue its goals.

Our new Directors, James Rasmussen and Julius Wadekamper, and our new Treasurer, Stephen Kegerise, have stepped quietly into their new positions and are performing efficiently. We welcome these three fine gentlemen and look forward to years of excellent service for AIS.

One of the all time greats of AIS has stepped down from her position as an AIS Director. After attending eighteen consecutive Fall Board Meetings, at her own personal expense, Melba Hamblen has relinquished her formal association as a Director. However, it is very comforting to know that Melba and her tremendous store of knowledge is available to us and that we need only to ask. Those of us who were fortunate enough to know her personally during these many years know her to be one of the most gracious, charming and generous ladies to come our way. Thank you, Melba! You have made our lives happier for all your generous contributions to the iris and to AIS. You are a great lady and an irisarian par excellence!

Time for the Tulsa Convention is almost here, and we can scarcely wait its arrival. Knowing the Convention Committee, we look forward to the best Convention ever. Isn't that our goal—improvement with every meeting?

We hope to see each of you in Tulsa, but just in case we miss anyone, we wish you the very best bloom season ever. May every new iris you acquired in 1979 bloom with beauty that excels your fondest expectations.

#### **SOUND ADVICE?**

James Burch, Alabama

Is it time to take another look at the traditional views on growing irises and the typical advice we give to a new irisarian? In my opinion, the answer is Yes. To properly deal with this subject, we must look at what we traditionally pass on to a new irisarian. In the Southeast, it generally goes like this for bearded irises:

- 1. Plant irises in a raised bed because irises require good drainage.
- 2. The soil must have a positive pH so add either lime or gypsum because our soil is acid.
- 3. Add lots of humus to the soil and incorporate it well but remember to add more lime since the humus raises the acidity level.
- 4. Use bone meal for fertilizer and if you feel you have to use something else, do not use any nitrogen. It is permissable to use superphosphate, but only use a small amount. Remember that overfertilized irises will rot.
- 5. Wait at least three years to divide your irises and replant them because most irises will not bloom the first year, and this will give you two years of good bloom.

What have we done to this enthusiastic irisarian who has just joined our ranks? We have insured that he will grow poorer quality irises than he did before he joined the iris society. This is the approximate advice that I received, and I have repeatedly heard other newcomers receive similar advice at both local and regional iris meetings.

In the past nine years, I have constantly experimented with different methods of iris culture and have found the above to be at its best grossly inadequate and some of it, totally incorrect.

The first lesson that I learned is that to have good quality bloom stalks, irises must be transplanted each year, and they must be adequately fertilized. If a healthy rhizome is transplanted and properly fertilized, it should produce at least one or two sturdy, well-branched stalks and three to ten or more quality increases. Admittedly, some varieties (probably less than one percent) simply refuse to bloom the first year and refuse to put on more than two increases. My average production from one healthy rhizome is one and one-half bloom stalks and four increases. What happens if this clump of four or more rhizomes is left growing for a second year? An overcrowded clump of sixteen to thirty rhizomes are present the second spring. Since it is impossible to furnish adequate

nourishment to the clump, it will put up approximately six to twelve spindly, poorly branched bloom stalks with greatly reduced flower size. The rhizomes which do not bloom will be approximately one-fourth the size of their mother rhizomes. These tiny rhizomes probably will not bloom the next year whether they are left in the clump or transplanted. From this derives the bad advice that most irises do not bloom the first year.

Aside from the better quality bloom and rhizomes, another advantage of transplanting irises each year is that it increases the length of bloom season by at least two weeks in this area. The early, mid, and late season classification actually has some meaning on one-year plantings whereas on two-year plantings, most varieties in the same classification, i.e., tall bearded tend to bloom together.

Transplanting irises yearly will greatly reduce disease problems provided that they are moved to a new location. It is best to turn the ground under where irises were grown and to grow something else there for at least one year. Irises do not like to be repeatedly grown in the same soil year after year. My experiences are that diseases such as leaf spot and bacterial leaf blight increase at least ten fold for each consecutive year that irises are grown in the same spot and that it is virtually impossible to grow them in the same spot for more than three years. It is amazing how nature will destroy diseases that irises leave and revitalize the soil in only one year by doing nothing more than planting a cover crop of grass.

By now you are probably saying, "I hope that nut does not think that I can transplant yearly with any chance of a successful bloom season." You can, provided your growing season is adequate to grow a mature rhizome and establish a new root system prior to the first killing frost. With adequate irrigation at all times, a growing season of at least 100 to 120 days after the end of bloom season is required. If your growing season is less than this, I DO NOT recommend annual transplanting. A minimum of six weeks after bloom is needed to grow a mature rhizome and a minimum of six weeks is required to establish a root system and to grow enough new foliage to supply some replacement food for the rhizome.

What is adequate fertilization? It varies for each particular soil. If you do not know what kind and how much fertilizer to use, take a soil sample and send it to the agricultural extension service at your state's agricultural college stating that you are growing irises. They will send you an analysis of the nutrients your particular soil needs.

After you receive this information, when do you apply the fertilizer? Keep in mind that bloom quality is determined by the quality of rhizome which is grown during the six to eight weeks following the end of bloom season. Therefore, approximately one month prior to bloom season is a good time to fertilize. This provides adequate time for the fertilizer to break down into a usable form. It also allows for cultivation and fertilizer incorporation at a time when the foilage is small enough that minimum damage occurs. This is also the best time to use a herbicide if you are so inclined. My preference is Princep 80 because it is easy to apply. Simply mix two tablespoons to a gallon of water and spray the entire ground surface. No incorporation is necessary; spray over the top of the rhizome to insure all surface is covered. Weed control is mentioned here because there is no benefit in using fertilizer if it grows weeds instead of irises.

Fertilizer is also applied under the rows when they are being prepared for iris transplanting. This provides a boost which aids in developing an adequate root system prior to winter dormancy. Remember, the better the root system, the less heaving due to freezing. Although there is no scientific proof, it appears that this also increases bloom quality.

My experience, in our red clay soil with raised beds, is that if a width of twenty-four to thirty inches is exceeded, the raised bed provides no better drainage and rot control than planting the irises on level ground. Here, it is best to hill rows ten to twelve inches high and plant the rhizomes on top of the row with approximately one inch of soil on top of the rhizome. By the time the soil settles, approximately one-third of the rhizome is exposed. With the tremendous amount of rainfall we have, planting any deeper will result in rot at the base of the foliage in hot, humid weather. Planting irises in hilled rows and so shallow requires mulching in order to keep heaving to a minimum. Pine needles provide an excellent mulch which will remain where you put it. In the spring it can be simply pulled off the irises and plowed into the middles where it provides valuable humus.

As far as adding humus to the soil, it is my opinion that the decomposed mulch and decomposed cover crop are adequate in this section of the country. In an area where vegetation is sparse, it may be necessary to add humus.

Although this is, again, not a scientific fact, it seems that irises tend to develop less rot in slightly acid or negative pH soil. However, the foliage does have a more pleasing green color in a neutral or slightly positive pH soil. Therefore, there is no best soil pH, but each person must determine what pH level is best for his growing conditions.

The growing methods discussed thus far require lots of space. What can the grower do if space limitations require the use of the same plot year after year? There are two problems here which must be compensated for to successfully grow quality irises year after year.

First, as any farmer will tell you, single crop farming depletes the soil of the particular nutrients required to produce that crop. The same is true

of irises; therefore, these nutrients must be resupplied to the soil. Simply using a commercial fertilizer will not do the job because commercial fertilizer basically furnishes only nitrogen, phosphate, and potash and not the trace elements such as zinc, iron, copper, aluminum, magnesium, and many others. Some success can be obtained using one of the organic fertilizers which contain most of the trace elements. The drawback here is that these fertilizers are not readily available. There is only one source in this area, and he does not want to be bothered for less than a ton.

Another proven, successful method is to replace the topsoil with new topsoil. The main drawbacks are cost and the importation of every weed imaginable. An excellent method of replacing the required nutrients in worn-out topsoil is the use of organic compost. This is, in my opinion, the best and most cost-effective way to rebuild soil because practically anything organic can be used. (Rena Crumpler has an excellent article on composting in the September, 1979, AIS *Region 4 Newscast*. If you are interested in using compost, you should obtain a copy of this article.)

The other problem is disease. It seems that once a disease appears in a particular spot, it remains there. The use of fumigants will minimize diseases in the soil, but none have been found that will totally eradicate any iris disease except nematodes. Methyl Bromide will kill nematodes when properly applied. It will also kill all roots and most seeds in the soil.

Regardless of whether or not you rotate your irises with a cover crop or grow them in the same spot year after year, disease must be controlled in order to grow quality irises. It seems that the vast majority of iris diseases are brought into the garden and spread throughout the garden by insects. To effectively control insects, you must know what insects are present in your garden. If you are not familiar with insect identification, again use your agricultural extension service. Collect some specimen of every insect you find and send it to them. They will identify the insect and advise you which insecticides are most effective for its control. If you live in the Southeast, this is not a problem. If an insect exists, we have it so you simply spray for everything.

Two diseases in this area which are not attributable to insects are leaf spot and Botrytis. Both Benlate and Daconile 2787 fungicides provide effective control in my opinion, Daconile provides the best control, but it requires reuse every week during rainy weather. Benlate is systemic and lasts for at least two weeks regardless of the weather. My solution to this has been to mix the two together and spray every three weeks during wet weather. If we have an extended dry period, no spray is applied. In dry climates probably one or two sprayings a year will be sufficient for effective control.

Regardless of whether you transplant annually, biannually, or triannually; grow in hilled rows, raised beds, or level ground; have a short or long growing season, one thing is certain: quality bloom cannot be obtained from poorly grown or diseased rhizomes.

Jimmy Burch, AIS Membership Contest Committee Chairman, received much praise for his excellent garden on tour at the 1979 Convention in Huntsville. This article was requested to answer the many questions about his cultural procedures.—Ed.

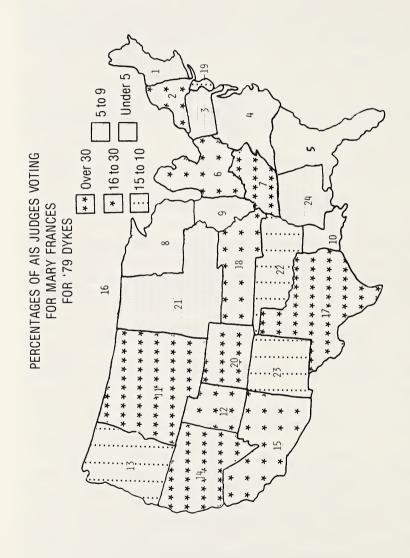


#### SEE HOW THEY RAN . . .

The 1979 Dykes Memorial Medal was decided without a run-off ballot when MARY FRANCES (Gaulter) garnered 16.2% of votes on the initial ballot. Kenneth Waite, Awards Committee Chairman, and his wife, Agnes, report that MARY FRANCES led throughout the race. Their records are below.

#### PLAY BY PLAY OF THE 1979 DYKES RACE

Date	Number of Ballots Returned	Mary Frances	Lemon Mist	Going My Way	
May					
31	78	19	11	4	
At this time, MARY FRANCES had 24%					
June 15	170	49	16	14	
She now had 29% of votes cast					
June 25	2.77	58	27	24	
The front runner had dropped to 20.9%					
July 2	399	77	46	32	
MARY FRANCES still led with 19.8%					
July 9	535	92	59	46	
The challengers dropped the leader to 17.2 %					
July 20	730	118	87	56	
	Mary France	S was the winner	with 16.2 %		
				-	



In the final tabulation, as illustrated on the map, the heaviest voting came from the western states plus Region 17 (Texas) and Region 7 (Kentucky and Tennessee), with the lightest voting for MARY FRANCES from the southeast and north central states and Canada.

The highest percentage won by MARY FRANCES, 39%, was in Region 14 (Northern California and Nevada); MARY FRANCES is California bred. Next highest was Region 7, with 38% across the nation and hardly support for a local pet. Other heavy support ranged from 30% in the lightly voting northern Region 11 (Idaho, Montana and Wyoming), to 30.5% in the south central state of Texas. Region 20 (Colorado) connects the diagonal line between the last two.

The areas not favoring MARY FRANCES with votes included Region 4, which gave 10.3% to LEMON MIST; Region 5, which voted 13.3% to GOING MY WAY; Region 8, which gave 11.7% to each runner-up; Region 9, voting a resounding 60% for LEMON MIST in its home region; Region 10 did not like any of the leading candidates, nor did Region 16. The overseas votes ran 13.3% for MARY FRANCES and 6.6% for each of the others. All these percentages are based upon the number of eligible judges who cast ballots; not all judges voted.

Analysis? BULLETIN would like to hear readers' theories. No particular climate type seems to be alone in its preference for MARY FRANCES. Home region sentiment can only go so far with the quantity of votes cast. An early lead might be assumed to be from southern areas with earlier bloom seasons, yet the winner did not fare well in the southeast; perhaps, the most enthusiastic judges vote earliest. Regardless of psychology involved—or not involved—MARY FRANCES was a clear winner on the first ballot.



Sanford Roberts wrote, after the Summer 1979 issue article "Behind the Veil" by Philip Edinger, that he had an addition to the veiled or halo iris class.

Neva Sexton's 1974 introduction CHRISTENING PARTY includes in its family tree NEW FRONTIER, Sdlg. 127-63, GOLDEN SENSATION and RAINBOW GOLD. Mr. Roberts reported that he grew several plants in his garden on tour for the 1975 national convention in southern California and felt that CHRISTENING PARTY was regretably overlooked. He added, "The halo is particularly prominent on early March, and sometimes fall bloom, or when a stalk opens in cooler weather."

#### **HALO AGAIN**

Philip Edinger, California

While preparing the "think piece" that accompanied the BRIDE'S HALO parentage chart (AIS BULLETIN 234: 35–37), I envisioned a small flood of responses from hybridizers who, from their experiences, could shed more light on the halo pattern's origin or origins. My hopes began to be gratified within a week of the BULLETIN's arrival when I received a letter of just the sort I wanted from Joe Ghio. I braced myself for the (surely) oncoming torrent of letters—which, of course, never came!

Because it contains specific information in addition to speculations, I offer Joe's letter here as food for general thought.

#### Dear Phil:

The article you wrote on the halo pattern stimulated my thinking on the subject. In addition to the three you mentioned, HIGH TEA also has the halo. 73-122V is a seedling I used extensively and is light lavender with a gold halo, from HI TOP X ((PONDEROSA x TRAVEL ON) x PEACE OFFERING); in fact, crossed with OLD FLAME it produced our 1980 release CREME DE CREME, a warm white with gold halo.

I've been breeding extensively in the pattern, and my conclusion is that DENVER MINT alone has the ability to give the halo, and using irises with the pattern like OLD FLAME and BRIDE'S HALO tend to act much as red-bearded whites. It seems to be a dominant pattern in much the same vein as PROGENITOR. I believe that the halo pattern developed as a mutant gene in DENVER MINT.

Varieties like LAUNCHING PAD, JOYCE TERRY, GOLD TRIMMINGS, BICENTENNIAL are really incomplete halo patterns. The standards are webbed rather than pure yellow. In fact, BICENTENNIAL's standards are white on the inside with a yellow halo.

Interestingly, a few irises have crystal edges which look like halos but aren't. FULL TIDE and SATIN GLASS would be examples of this. I bloomed seedlings from SATIN GLASS X 73-122V which showed neither halos nor crystal edges. A further conclusion is that the halo is tangerine linked. When a halo is crossed with tangerine factored items, the halo pattern seems to appear in about 8:1 ratio. A cross I made that I thought would produce a worldbeater, OLD FLAME X BRIDE'S HALO, produced nothing but duds, but the halo seemed to show up in about 4:1.

My two best halo breeders besides 73-122V have been (PINK ANGEL X OLD FLAME) and (BUFFY X OLD FLAME). I don't see why you can't have halos in shades of pink or orange and tan besides the yellow. Ground colors seem limited to white, lavender, and cream/light yellow.

.... Unquestionably, DENVER MINT is one of the most significant breeders of today ....

Sincerely, Joe

Since the BRIDE'S HALO article was printed, I have by accident rather than by intent run across six more apparent halo pattern irises—bringing the total to ten at minimum. And the casual manner in which I ran across these additional six makes me feel that there *must* be more. For the record (and for following discussion), here are names, descriptions, and parentages of all ten. An asterisk indicates ones that from personal viewing or from color photograph clearly have the pattern; the others listed would appear to have the pattern based on description (all descriptions were taken from AIS Check Lists except for the two Hamblen irises which are excerpted from catalog introductory descriptions). For convenience, the known DENVER MINT derivatives are listed first.

- \*BRIDE'S HALO (H.C. Mohr '72). White self bordered by 1/8" band of yellow . . .; yellow beard. RAINBOW GOLD X DENVER MINT.
- \*GALEN (Fairbanks-Jasper '74). Standards pale lavender, thin yellow rim; falls lavender, thin yellow rim, bright yellow-gold hafts; yellow stylearms; bright orange beard. DENVER MINT X ((ALICE LEMEN x (JOSEPH'S MANTLE x HI TIME)) x MOON RIVER).
- \*HIGH TEA (Knocke '77). Laced and ruffled white with yellow picoted edges; yellow beard. (GLAMOROUS x DENVER MINT) X RADIANT SUN.
- \*OLD FLAME (Ghio '75). Standards chalk white with thin yellow edge; falls chalk white, pencil-thin yellow border; red beard. WEST COAST X RADIANT LIGHT.
- \*Antique Ivory (Schreiners '72). Cream white, perimeter edged lemongold on both standards and falls; yellow beard. CITRON CREAM X (S691-E  $\times$  BRILLIANT STAR).

DANCING LIGHT (Christensen '69). Standards white; falls orchid with gold band edge on falls and standards; red beard. (Note: introductory description clarifies that falls are only lightly tinted fuchsia purple). (MARY RANDALL x COLLEGIATE sib) X GLITTERING AMBER.

JEWELED FLIGHT (Hamblen '68). . . . velvety white with a mini edge of gold lace on all petals and gold brushed hafts. Showy nasturtium red beard. MAZATLAN X CORABAND white sib.

FAIRY JEWELS (Hamblen '60). Sparkling white with hafts and beard of gold and with a fine gold edge extending around each lacy petal. VALIMAR sib X GLITTERING AMBER sib.

\*MY DARLING (Daling '56). Standards orchid lavender suffusion on off-white; falls off-white with darker suffusion, Burmese gold edge on both; green-tinged midrib, deep orange beard. (CANTILLY x LAVENDER AND GOLD LACE) X (Alexia Gerberg seedling x EASTER BONNET).

CUTE TOMATO (Suiter '52). Creamy white self, wire edge of gold on standards and falls; red beard. (SALMON SHEEN x BEAU GAY) X (HALL 44-55 x PINK FORMAL).

#### **Observations**

Considering only the certified halo-pattern varieties (those preceded by an asterisk) in the above list, four of the six do stem from DENVER MINT: BRIDE'S HALO, GALEN, HIGH TEA, and OLD FLAME. If more were known of the background of ANTIQUE IVORY, it might also fit into that group. Even so, there remains the question of MY DARLING—and I have a color photograph that shows plainly the "Burmese gold edge" on all petals. It stands, then, as the one definite exception to the Denver-Mintonly theory of halo origin.

Of the four remaining irises in the above list that, from published description, appear to have the halo pattern, not one stems from DENVER MINT. But three of the four do derive from DENVER MINT's parent GLITTERING AMBER or a sib to it. GLITTERING AMBER is from PALOMINO (Hall) X (JUNE'S SISTER (Muhlestein). The one "loner" in the group of four is CUTE TOMATO; but even though it doesn't derive from GLITTERING AMBER (it couldn't, having been registered three years prior to G.A.), it does stem from Hall and Muhlestein pinks.

If not a common ancestor, is there a common ancestry? Nine of the ten aformentioned irises bear out Joe's conclusion "that the halo is tangerine linked." Tangerine-bearded irises are prominent in their parentages. And even the one exception—MY DARLING, again—is in this context far less exceptional: its ancestry is full of tangerine "carriers" that are behind the pinks in the parentages of the other nine.

This prominent tangerine connection underscores one other of Joe's statements: why not halos in shades of pink or orange or tan. Does anyone have them already?



#### THE OVERDOERS

#### Walter Moores — Fort Worth, TX

Too many people talk about bloom-out. I'd like to put the shoe on the other foot and discuss irises with the opposite problem: varieties that develop large clumps so rapidly that it is difficult to get a good bloom display. I have noticed two general variations in which irises are hindered by the overproduction of rhizome increase.

Problem Type A includes plants that produce normal bloom stalks, but too many in number, too close together. Branches crowd together from numerous stalks and the flowering clump loses aesthetic effectiveness. A remedy to this problem might be to cut some of the excess bloomstalks or foliage.

Problem Type B consists of rhizomes that produce too many increases that never really attain proper blooming size. The result is weed-like clumps with shortened or snaky stems that have little or no branching and bear undersized blooms. Out of season, these plants might easily be mistaken for daylilies. As far as I know, there are no cosmetic techniques to remedy Problem Type B.

The lists that follow include a dozen of each type. Since some of the irises mentioned are award winners, I would assume that the tendencies are regional.

#### PROBLEM TYPE A

(Too many normal stalks)
ADAMSBLACK—Craig '67
AUTUMN ECHO—Gibson '75
BAROQUE PRELUDE—Zubrigg '74
FLAMING LIGHT—R. Brown '73
GRANDVILLE—Moores '77
HAUNTING RAPSODY—Ghio '68
MADEIRA BELLE—Quadros '70
NIGHT HERON—Tucker '67
OSAGE BLUFF—Gibson '73
PEEK-A-BLUE—Sexton '75
SILENT PATRIOT—S. Roberts '76
TURBULENCE—Steinhauer '76

#### PROBLEM TYPE B

(Too many increases, runted stalks)
BORDELLO—S. Roberts '77
EVENING CHIMES—Palmer '74
EXOTIC STAR—Plough '75
FOCUS—Keppel '76
GRANDMA'S SPRINGDRESS—
Niswonger '71
HAPPY HALO—Gibson '73
LOVE IS—Varner '73
MAYLASIA—Ghio '76
NIGHT RAIDER—Burrell '77
SEA VENTURE—B. Jones '72
SPANISH STREET SONG—Sexton '74
WINNER'S CIRCLE—Plough '72

Reader comment is invited on this topic. Have you encountered overdoers in your garden? Do you feel that climate, soil, fertilizer or water details may be relevant? Let the editor hear from you. Many thanks to Mr. Moores for initiating the discussion.

## International News \*

Bee Warburton

#### FROM BELGIUM

Mons. E. Ponsaerts wishes to express his thanks to all the hybridizers who sent plants in response to the inquiry in the AIS Bulletin, for their "promotion gift around the world for the genus Iris." He also wishes to express his appreciation for the extras sent with those that he ordered for his own collection, and would very much like to receive catalogs from other breeders and commercial growers. He added:

"You are right when you write that people are not experienced in mailing rhizomes" (certainly responsible for the lack of response by many). "This would be an excellent subject of an article for the AIS Bulletin. I can probably give interesting and pertinent reflections, but I am not able to write in correct English . . . ." We have replied immediately soliciting this article with enthusiasm. As for Mr. Ponsaerts' English, the above is quoted exactly—judge for yourself!

His address: 8, Avenue de l'Exposition Universelle, Box 13, 1070 Brussels, Belgium.

#### **INTERNATIONAL SMALL IRIS COMPETITION, VIENNA, 1979**

This trial is now 15 years old, and is the only remaining trial solely for small bearded irises in the world. Our good friend, Franz Kurzmann, who is responsible for all aspects of the trials, reports that 65 varieties were received in 1978, and 56 in 1979. That the interest is worldwide, and that the median irises are being successfully bred everywhere, is obvious from the 1979 results:

**States Prize:** FOXCOTE, J. Taylor, England; dark red-brown median **Special Prize** of the Society of Friends of Perennials, for new advances in hybridizing: CHEERS, Hager, USA; short median (45 cm), white with

mandarin red beard, excellent form, unfortunately a slow grower.

Group 1: MDB (to 20 cm high)

1. BRASS TACKS, Keppel, USA; pastel yellow, blue beard No further prizes given.

Group 2: SDB (to 40 cm high).

1. CLAP HANDS, Hager, USA; delicate brown plicata marking on yellow ground.

2. SASSENACH, J. Taylor, England; standards yellow, falls brownish red.

- 3. KARAMELL, Denkewitz, BRD; pastel yellow blending into brown.
- 4. LIANNE, Delany, New Zealand; standards yellow, falls yellow with streaky brown spot.

#### Group 3: Median irises (20 70 cm high): IB, BB, and MTB

- 1. MORGENDAMMERUNG, Ziepke, BRD; light blue with delicate lines and very good form.
- 2. PARTY FINERY, Roberts, USA; salmon red with darker lights
- 3. POT LUCK, Hager, USA; brown violet plicata on yellow.
- 4. WENLOCK, Taylor, England; corn yellow, beards orange.
- 5. SNOW FESTIVAL, Palmer, USA; pure white, very late.

#### Group 4: Arilbreds

1. STEPPENWOLF, Dr. Ramisch, BRD; wine red with veins and dark markings; evaluated in first year of growth.

No further prizes were given.

Our thanks to Franz Kurzmann of Vienna, Austria for this report.

Paris, France: Dr. Sidney Stewart, who managed to transform himself from a small-town Oklahoma boy to a Parisian psychoanalyst, is reviving an old interest in breeding gray irises, a project derived from his wife's interest in arrangement material. The project came to an abrupt stop when all original stocks were destroyed by weedkillers. At that time his favored breeder was the old French BEOTIE, and this and some others he was able to recover from the historical collections at the Paris Museum of Natural History, but in the process he learned so much about what has been going on in iris breeding that he is looking into more advanced lines.

Sidney has already bought some stocks from American firms, but he would appreciate any advice on gray breeding from American hybridizers. He would particularly like to locate CHAR—MAIZE, which is in the parentage of several varieties listed in past checklists as gray. He added green blends to his list because he noted they were often in the parentage of grays. I don't know what he means by gray, but from his list I would say thay anything goes. His address is, Dr. Sidney Stewart, 62, Blvd. Saint Germain, 75005 Paris, France.

#### JUDGING OF IRISES, PALMENGARTEN, FRANKFURT, GERMANY

#### Dr. E. Haslinger

In the Palmengarten the tall bearded irises are point scored, each day for eight days, by eight judges. The top scores are in two lists; the first eleven receive commendations; the first receives a cup, and the second, a silver medal. (In this case a note has been added that FIRE AND RAIN,

was damaged by a visitor in 1978 during the judging.) Commended varieties on the first list, in order, were:

SEMPRONIO (Worfel 76), FIRE AND RAIN (Plough 75), H 74/30 (Heimann), GRILETTA (Worfel '76), HANAU OPAL (Haslinger 79), TRAUMNACHT (Schubert), STT 73 (Tamberg), FRAU MARTEL HALD (Eberle 76), EH 73-138-1F (Heimann), STT 78 (Tamberg), 65/75 EW (Worfel).

In the second listing, 64 varieties received commendations, the first also receiving a "KF-Medal." These varieties are, in order:

SEHNSUCHT (Longing) (Denkewitz 78), SKETCH ME (Plough 75), BERLIN GOLD (Tamberg 76), URSULA VAHL (Tamberg 76), TRIPLE PLAY (Plough 75), SIGFRID FIEDLER (Tamberg 76).

There are few American irises in the Palmengarten collection. This year the collection is being updated, and it is hoped that more Americans will contribute. Address: Bruno Mueller, Dipl. Ing., PALMENGARTEN, 6 Frankfurt am Main 1, Siesmayerstrasse 61, Germany.



#### A Tribute to Enthusiasm

Sam Johnson, Texas

For a number of years, our New Braunfels, Texas Iris Society held a traditional annual rhizome sale in October. Members, after their digging and replanting, brought their left-overs and culls to be sold, mostly to fellow members. Many went on a barter basis or for a few cents. At times we found a small regional commercial grower who would give us his left-overs at the end of the shipping season.

We followed such a plan, that is, until 1978 when, taking a closer look at our procedure, we saw its faults. We were not bringing new varieties into our community. In most instances, we were unloading second rate merchandise on our friends and neighbors. Worst of all, we were guilty of poor merchandising, trying to operate on a small inventory and limiting the income needed to finance our spring show.

After consideration, we decided to start buying a quality selection. We reasoned that if we approached some of the leading commercial growers and asked their help to put on a better rhizome sale, we would be helping to broaded their market. Thus, we would help each other "preach the gospel" of the iris.

We found three top western commercial growers who were not only sympathetic with our aims, but who were enthusiastic. Enthusiasm is contagious. With suppliers and distributors inspiring each other, we found that hard work changed into fun.

The mechanics were simple. As distributor, the club makes an agreement with the grower, the supplier. The club sends the grower a given sum of money, and the grower agrees to provide a comprehensive iris selection of his choice at the end of his regular shipping season and gets the shipment to the distributor in time for his rhizome sale. All rhizomes are top quality, properly identified, recent varieties.

The club's sale committee selects the date and site, usually a public shopping mall. Malls often welcome an event of this kind as a good public relations gimmick. A publicity campaign includes articles and small ads in local papers, announcements to all nearby garden clubs and word of mouth publicity. Club members offer to help non-irisarians select varieties and advise them how to plant and grow irises.

What did our New Braunfels Society get for carrying out these ideas? For a \$200 investment that almost drained our bank account, we got back \$970 from a one day sale. This was more than three times what we had gotten the previous year selling second rate goods.

In 1979, we figured that we could double the inventory we purchased and have sales two different days in two small towns. We set a sale for New Braunfels and another the next day in San Marcos, about 16 miles distant. We thought that the momentum from 1978 would carry over and we could double our sales. It worked!

We advertised the New Braunfels sale to be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., but we sold out by 1:30. We had advertised longer hours for San Marcos, a new site for a sale, and were sold out by 12:30. We were embarrassed to disappoint some of our eager customers when we ran out of stock.

In plain figures, we took \$500 out of our bank account to buy top quality rhizomes and replaced it with \$1,500 from the two day sale. Our plans for 1980 are agreed upon. We will again double our order for both cities, plus adding beardless favorites, spurias and Louisianas, and some arilbreds to our usual TBs.

People ask, "What are you going to do with all the money?" Our reply is that you can do a lot of good things with money well spent on generous donations to AIS, paying dues for all our members and sponsoring bigger and better iris shows that attract new irisiarians and new members.

Another big motivation is the fun we have in putting on an event that involves the participation of our entire membership. It's always fun to play on a winning team. Everything that we have accomplished has been done in a small town setting and from a small beginning: a tribute to what enthusiasm can do!

### The Best of Parents?

Edward T. Browne, Jr.

Dept. of Biology, Memphis State University, TN

A paper by this name (without the interrogative) by the late Dr. Clarke Cosgrove appears in the October 1974 AIS Bulletin. Cosgrove meant by "Best of Parents" the number of HM winners with a Dykes Medal-winning parent in the years 1962-71. In the two tables presented by him, some interesting things can be seen. Offspring of only two DM winners placed more varieties in the HM category, WHOLE CLOTH and RIPPLING WATERS, than the highest HM-producing non-DM—winning parent, MELODRAMA.

In addition, all the rest of the 50 remaining varieties in this class scored higher than the lowest three HM winners with a DM-winning parent. The lowest three are HELEN MCGREGOR, BLUE RHYTHM and DEBBIE RAIRDON. It is presumed that hybridizers would have made every possible attempt to incorporate these varieties in their breeding lines, but, apparently, few succeeded. Why?

Obviously, some Dykes Medal winners do not make as good parents as would be desired. One of the main reasons for this is the degree of sterility exhibited by these varieties. Degree of pollen fertility is one good criterion of fertility of a variety which can be easily demonstrated. Table I shows the percentage of pollen fertility of certain DM winners, the fresh pollen of which was examined by the aniline blue-lacto-phenol method (Johansen, 1940; Sass, 1961) during the spring and summer of 1979. Eventually, it is intended to report on pollen fertility of all Dykes Medal winners since all are grown in Ketchum Memorial Iris Garden, Audubon Park, Memphis. Table II is furnished to show some of the range of fertility of various other tall bearded varieties. All of these were grown in the writer's family garden under more or less uniform conditions.

It is not surprising that today's varieties of tall bearded irises exhibit a high degree of sterility. The fact that they are tetraploids contributes to this. In addition, various chromosomal abnormalities often contribute variously to sterility: inversions, deletions, duplications, deficiencies, translocations, asynapsis and aberrant synapsis. Genetic sterility factors no doubt also play a role.

It is suggested that plant breeders determine pollen fertility of potential pollen parents and use larger amounts of pollen when breeding plants of low pollen fertility. Fewer crosses might be attempted doing this, but a higher degree of success might be attained.

Table I.

Percentage of Good Pollen of Certain Dykes Medal Winners as Indicated by Aniline Blue in Lacto-Phenol Staining.

Variety	% Good Pollen
WINTER OLYMPICS	63
Debbie Rairdon	31
STEPPING OUT	31

#### Table II.

Comparison of Pollen Fertility of Other Tall Bearded Iris Varieties Using Aniline Blue in Lacto-Phenol Staining as the Criterion.

Variety	% Good Pollen
LATIN LOVER	77
Martel	64
Happy Harmony	63
Snow Goddess	58
JUNGLE FIRES	56
DAZZLING DELIGHT	49
STUDY IN BLACK	45
FRONTIER MARSHAL	27
RIPPLING CLOUDS	26
NIGHT OWL	20
MILDRED HILL	8
TUXEDO	2

A word of caution: Persons using this method should be fully aware that both lactic acid and phenol (carbolic acid) are potentially injurious. Users should therefore practice care when using this solution. The writer is trying to find another solution which indicates the same thing that the aniline blue-lacto-phenol solution does, but would not have the possible injurious properties.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Dr. Herbert Parkes Riley, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Botany, University of Kentucky, for reading the manuscript of this paper and making several worthwhile suggestions.

#### References

Cosgrove, C. 1974. The Best of Parents. AM. IRIS SOC. BULL. 60(4): 74-75. Johansen, D. A. 1940. PLANT MICROTECHNIQUE. McGraw-Hill, New York, p. 24. Sass, J. E. 1961. BOTANICAL MICROTECHNIQUE. Iowa State Univ. Press, Ames, p. 102.



#### THE PAIRED SPECIES OF IRISES III

Roy Davidson, Washington

The world seems filled with similar wildflowers which Man has studies and named and grown. Not infrequently, he has confused one with another, and these often become regarded as "a pair," merely for having been so mistaken. Such is probably the case with the two Asiatic water irises, for when they are put side by side, they are readily seen to be quite distinct in leaf, flower (especially color), seed and seed capsule.

Iris laevigata and Iris ensata (kaempferi)

The persistant idea that *Iris laevigata* and *Iris kaempferi* (as it was then called) were really one seems to go back to earliest published portrayals. Regel may well have been the original perpetrator, for his description and likeness of the latter in "Gartenflora" in 1864 bore the identification of the former, even though they had originally been considered distinct. This was followed by "Curtis Botanical Magazine" in 1874, by Baker of Kew in his HANDBOOK IRIDIAE of 1892, by Lynch of Cambridge in his BOOK OF THE IRIS in 1904 and by none other than Dykes in his earlier writings. By 1913, however, he had corrected his error, as in THE GENUS IRIS and, the following year, he insisted, "We must try to realize that the two names represent two distinct species."

But the deed was done and even in Japan this was apparent, for Miyoshi's elegant brochure of the Hana Shobu of 1920 appeared with the erroneous title IRIS LAEVIGATA FISCHER. It became a popular notion that *I. laevigata* represented the wild plant, and that the so-called Japanese irises, or Hana Shobu, of gardens ought to be known as *I. kaempferi*, as stated by Dykes in 1907. Later it was thought that the fabulous garden forms had come from the mating of these two Asian water irises, whether species, varieties or whatever.

We know now, of course, that they do not intercross, that they are quite distinct and that all the early Hana Shobu came from *I. ensata (kaempferi.)* The two coexist through much of temperate eastern Asia. One is a true hydrophyte and the other, a meadow plant, although both are 22

frequently grown in flooded garden conditions. There is more confusion involving a third Asian species, formerly called *I. ensata*, now known as *I. biglumis* simply because what had become so well known as *I. kaempferi* had already been given the prior name, *I. ensata*.

#### Iris ensata (kaempferi) and the Hana Shobu

This iris, associated with Japanese culture, was first known to western botany from the Transbaikal of Siberia as found by Thunberg and published as *Iris ensata* in 1874. Unfortunately, the name was misreferred to quite another plant. It is a meadow subject, needing much water during growth, and has been cultivated in Japan as an intermittent water plant for at least 500 years, during which time selection has given the astounding array of forms and colors. They are now being bred in other parts of the world as well; strains tolerant of alkaline conditions have been developed in Europe recently. The species is found from Siberia to Manchuria, where it is particularly prominent in the Amur Basin, to Korea and northern Japan.

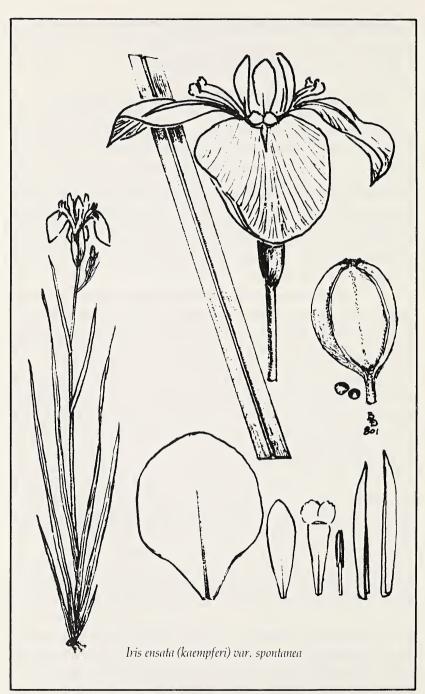
From a fairly stout rhizome, it grows leaves to over two feet, lax toward the tips, a half to three-quarters of an inch in width, with a prominently thickened midrib. The stalk is about the same height, with a few short leaves; and a spathe of two buds at the top, its valves almost equal and quite clasping. Just beneath is a short branch of one or two buds.

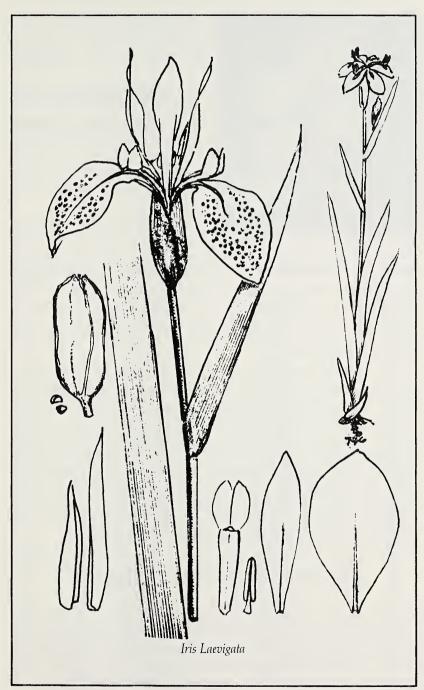
The flower is usually reddish-purple in the wild form, *I. ensata* var. *spontanea*. It is flared and rather flattish with broad falls and short bluntish standards. Occasional variants are pastel or white, or rarely blue-toned. One form, good for landscape use, has leaves boldly striped in creamy white. The seed capsule is oval, about one inch long, blunt topped; the seeds are flattened discs, oval in outline.

We value Hana Shobu for the magnificent array of garden forms, but there is much charm in the simpler flowers of the var. *spontanea* and their back-crosses. None of these require the attention necessary to bring the big ones to perfection, and they quickly form permanent garden clumps.

#### The Blue Water Iris, I. laevigata

The first western record of Asian blue water iris was of its discovery in the Transbaikal of Siberia by Pallas in 1770. No name was published then. In 1837, Fischer described it as *I. laevigata* when it was found in the same general area. From there, it ranges through much the same territory as *I. ensata* (kaempferi), although it is a submerged water plant in the manner of *I. pseudacorus*, in shallow streams and marshes, to Manchuria, NE China, Korea and northern Japan. From a stout and spreading rhizome comes a fan of lush, smooth, broad leaves, about two feet by an inch and





a half, with no trace of a thick midrib. The sturdy stalk overtops the arching leaves to produce a terminal inflorescence; the spathes are more or less unequal, thick and bulky. There may also be a short branch of one or two flowers.

The flowers come at the peak iris season and are quite conventional in shape, with tall, narrow standards and flared, broadly lance shaped falls. Their colors are stunning: some of the most intense ultramarine to cobalt to violet shades, or pastel tints spotted on a light ground color in a strange freckled manner. Infrequently, there are rose-toned. The seed capsule is up to two inches long, broadly oblong and tapering; the seeds are semicircular to cubical, enclosed in pale brown, husk-like coats that enable them to be dispersed by floating.

Well known in Japanese poetry of the Nara period nearly 13 centuries ago, this iris is noted in horticultural records since about 1680. Only about a half dozen forms are presently well known in western gardens. As many as 45 were once known in Japan; all but about 20 are now lost. The variation in this iris is mainly in the color and its pattern on the flower, although there are many sorts in which the standards have assumed the appearance of falls, in the manner of double Hana Shobu. Some other montrose forms have odd parts in addition, but none rival huge brocade saucers (illustrated inset.)

Two conventional singles are "Semperflorens" with a reflowering habit and richest deep blue color and "Regal" of English origin, in smooth rosy fuchsia. The doubles are represented by "Alba" with pale orchid styles; "Albopurpurea," in which white flowers are blotched heavily with purple; and "Colchesterensis," similar and more precise, the color contrasted with white margins and styles. There is also a most attractive "Variegata," with silver-white striped leaves contrasting with blue-purple flowers, and other forms occasionally grown from seeds or imported. In favorable conditions, many of them are reported as reflowering in summer and autumn, in addition to "Semperflorens," the most reliable remontant. Rich fare and summer heat seem to be factors in this tendency.

#### TRAVELING ABROAD? DON'T MISS THIS.

The Firenze International Iris Competition for 1980 will be held May 5-10 at the iris garden Piazzale Michelango in Florence, Italy. The awards ceremony is set for Saturday morning, May 10, at the town hall, Palazzo Vecchio, according to Ernesta Lemmi Pacciani, President of the Committee for the International Iris Competition, Palazzo Strozzi, Firenze.

## 1979 TALL BEARDED IRIS POPULARITY POLL

Left: CUP RACE Photographed by Frederick J. McAliece For the AIS Photo Contest



POSITI	ON	VARIETY	HYBRIDIZER	VOTES
1978	1979			
1	1	Stepping Out	Schreiner	563
3	2	Bride's Halo	H. Mohr	557
4	3	Mystique	J. Ghio	463
2	4	Kilt Lilt	Gibson	420
15	5	MARY FRANCES	Gaulter	360
7	6	Shipshape	Babson	359
8	7	GOING MY WAY	Gibson	358
6	8	New Moon	Sexton	342
9,	9	Pink Taffeta	Rudolph	322
4	10	Debby Rairdon	Kuntz	315
11	11	LEMON MIST	Rudolph	300
26	12	WHITE LIGHTNING	J. Gatty	286
10	13	Dream Lover	E. Tams	284
18	14	SON OF STAR	Plough	276
14	15	Babbling Brook	K. Keppel	267
17	16	Bayberry Candle	DeForest	250
21	17	Grand Waltz	Schreiner	249
20	17	Queen Of Hearts	O. Brown	249
12	19	CUP RACE	Buttrick	248
33	20	Vanity	B. Hager	245
16	21	WINTER OLYMPICS	O. Brown	241
22	22	Buffy	O. Brown	240
13	23	Dusky Dancer	Luihn	235
19	24	Five Star Admiral	Marsh	230
25	24	Pink Sleigh	Rudolph	230
2.7	26	Latin Lover	Shoop	228
22	27	CHERUB CHOIR	G. Corlew	214
31	28	Gay Parasol	Schreiner	213
30	29	Autumn Leaves	K. Keppel	202

35	30	Gala Madrid	Peterson	201
24	31	Study In Black	Plough	199
-	32	Entourage	J. Ghio	198
29	33	Feminine Charm	Mrs. G. Kegerise	190
78	34	JOYCE TERRY	Muhlestein	182
28	35	CAMELOT ROSE	Tompkins	182
37	36	Navy Strut	Schreiner	179
55	36	SKYLAB	N. Sexton	179
34	36	WINNER'S CIRCLE	Plough	179
51	39	Caramba	K. Keppel	174
43	40	NIGHT OWL	Schreiner	172
57	41	Cranberry Ice	Schreiner	166
38	42	LIME FIZZ	Schreiner	164
50	43	AMETHYST FLAME	Schreiner	163
32	44	CHRISTMAS TIME	Schreiner	160
-	44	RANCHO ROSE	Gibson	160
52	46	RIPPLING WATERS	Fay	159
39	47	BLUE LUSTER	O. Brown	158
64	47	GOLD TRIMMINGS	Schreiner	158
62	49	FULL TIDE	O. Brown	157
36	50	SAPPHIRE HILLS	Schreiner	156
41	51	PRAISE THE LORD	Boushay	153
40	52	WINE AND ROSES	Hall	150
40			Gaulter	
	53	LAURIE PAGENERAL PURPLES		149
53	54	RASPBERRY RIPPLES	Niswonger	146
70	55	Anon	Gibson	140
74	56	BICENTENNIAL	J. Ghio	139
41	57	Ermine Robe	Schreiner	136
47	58	Matinata	Schreiner	135
57	59	Lord Baltimore	Nearpass	133
45	60	Gypsy Belle	Hamner	131
80	61	Post Time	Schreiner	128
72	61	Rococo	Schreiner	128
53	63	CHARMED CIRCLE	K. Keppel	127
57	63	SOUTHERN COMFORT	Hinkle	127
46	65	ESTHER FAY	Fay	126
66	65	Launching Pad	Knopf	126
56	65	Peach Frost	Schreiner	126
44	68	One Desire	Shoop	125
65	69	DUTCH CHOCOLATE	Schreiner	124
88	70	COUNTRY MANOR	Mrs. G. Kegerise	123
74	71	TOUCHE	M. Hamblen	122
73	72	Margarita	Schreiner	121
93	72	Spartan	Schreiner	121
89	74	Orange Empire	Hamner	120
84	75	CHAPEAU	Babson	118
57	75	WEDDING VOW	I. Ghio	118
61	77	VIOLET HARMONY	Lowry	116
97	78	CALIENTE	Luihn	112
21	70	CALIENTE	Lumm	112

80	78	PACIFIC PANORAMA	N. Sexton	112
84	78	RUFFLED BALLET	Roderick	112
84	81	ICE SCULPTURE	B. Hager	111
82	81	Orange Parade	M. Hamblen	111
84	83	Madiera Belle	Quadros	108
47	83	BLUE SAPPHIRE	Schreiner	108
66	83	CARVED CAMEO	Rudolph	108
-	83	Gentle Rain	K. Keppel	108
68	83	Pink Angel	Rudolph	108
	88	TEMPLE GOLD	Luihn	105
82	89	Symphonette	Noyd	103
76	90	Pagan	R. Dunn	102
77	91	Allegiance	Cook	101
95	91	San Leandro	Gaulter	101
•	93	BETTY SIMON	M. Hamblen	100
62	93	CAYENNE CAPERS	Gibson	100
-	95	EXOTIC STAR	Plough	99
69	96	Angel Choir	Schliefert	98
99	96	BUTTERED POPCORN	D. Palmer	98
	98	Flamenco	K. Keppel	97
98	99	Frontier Marshal	Schreiner	96
-	99	VICTORIA FALLS	Schreiner	96

#### Runners-up:

94: West Coast; 93: Old Flame: 91: Coffee House, Intuition, Ming Dynasty, Night Heron: 90: Tinsel Town.



#### SIBERIAN HYBRIDIZERS: ATTENTION

Region 1 will host the 1983 American Iris Society Convention. This is an early request for Siberian Guest Irises. Spring shipment will be accepted from May 20, 1980 to September 15, 1980. The following information should accompany each plant. Hybridizer's name and address, name or number of the variety, height, color, and bloom season. Responsibility of the Guest Iris Committee extends only to plants received through the Guest Iris Chairman. Please send plants to: KENNETH M. WAITE, CHAIRMAN, GUEST IRIS COMMITTEE, 6 TOW PATH LANE, WESTFIELD, MA 01085.

Don't miss the 1980 AIS Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma for irising pleasure. Set aside April 29 to May 3 to attend; see the January 1980 BULLETIN for registration details and the schedule of events.

#### **GLEANINGS**

Philip Edinger

#### **BEARDLESS**

The Iris Society of Minnesota "News and Views," September 1977 Melvin Rademacher: I grow my Japanese, Louisianas, Siberians and other water-loving irises in the same area, as they all require an acid bed and lots of water . . . . In making an acid bed, use a mixture of about 1/3 peat, 1/3 compost, and 1/3 garden soil. Add one pound of Ortho's "Flotox" garden sulfur per 100 sq. ft., mix well and water; then let set for about two weeks. Each year I use Ortho's "Orthorix" spray (one teaspoonful per gallon) and give each plant 1/3 of a gallon to keep the soil in acid condition. I do not use sulfates because I feel they are too toxic for extended use. A pine needle mulch is also good to keep an acid condition, and in addition it will hold moisture. In the spring I fertilize with 10-10-10 or its equivalent, and then every two to three weeks I feed them Stern's "Miracid." After they are through flowering I give them a top dressing of composted manure and one more feeding of "Miracid."

#### Region 12 Year Book, 1978

**Mildred R. Johnson:** I have probably thought of every reason in the book for lack of success with certain flowers in my own "estate." A number of years ago, I did an experiment with my Siberian irises for lengthening the time I could enjoy the heavy blooming clumps.

The original Siberian plantings were all on the north side of my house, about 3/4 feet from the wall. I found sun hit this area about 7 a.m. until noon. Then it received sun about 4:30/5:00 p.m. until sunset. While the late sun seemed weak, it was enough, added to the morning strength, to produce good flowers but short plants. This section needed extra good drainage, too.

As I began to divide the clumps, it occurred to me that full sun (the south side of the house) might produce better plants, so I began putting them where they received sun from 7 a.m. till the sun set. No trees, shrubs, or buildings provided shade in these areas. The plants did better through May for size and flowers, but became "stunted" looking by the middle of the summer. I suspect the ground was too hot for their health. However, when I put them by the drain-sprinkler locks when water spilled out at the end of the panel-sprinkling, they began to look better in the summer.

While photoperiodism (flowering by length of day and night) is not well-established for irises, I noticed that the irises on the south in full sun bloomed in April and May while the ones on the north bloomed in late May and June, sometimes going into July. By planting in various spots I now have Siberians blooming from the second week in April through the first week in July . . . a wonderful thing for my flower-arranging "phobia."

#### The Iris Society of Minnesota "News and Views," March 1977

**Joan Cooper:** Most avid gardeners have a spot set aside for the wild flowers—Jack-in-the-pulpit, trilliums, hepaticas, violets, ferns, and even lady slippers. Most woodland wild flowers enjoy full sun during the cool springtime and shifting, mottled sunshine later. They also prefer slightly acid soil, conditions that prevail in open shade, under trees. Do you know about the wild irises that are happiest under similar conditions?

.... Iris cristata, in any of its several color forms, is a charming iris which blooms abundantly in its season, usually the last half of May. Height is about five inches and width of flower is up to three inches. Flowers are usually light violet but sometimes white and are quite flat. They sport a bright yellow crest or cockscomb-like ornament where one would expect a beard. Small rhizomes of increase occur at the end of slender stolons.

*Iris cristata* has a near-relative, *I. lacustris*, the lake iris, native to the south shore of Lake Superior, that is supposed to be smaller and rather finicky. Both should be planted in spring or immediately after bloom, as they make little fall growth.

*Iris tectorum*, taller than *I. cristata*, is probably a native of China, but is popularly called the Japanese roof iris. The *alba* or white form makes a striking picture in my garden near blue phlox, ferny bleeding heart, and PALTEC. The blue form is, supposedly, more hardy and vigorous.... The plant I purchased as blue *tectorum* is the classic interspecies hybrid, PALTEC. Orginiated in 1924, a cross between *I. tectorum* and (a hybrid of) *I. pallida* (a bearded species), it retains its popularity and I can see why. Molly Price recommends it as a foreground plant for the June border, but it seems to bloom longer and have a brighter violet color in my shade garden as a background for *I. tectorum alba*. Molly P. recommends transplanting these crested irises to fresh soil frequently, but plenty of compost seems to keep them vigorous.

Iris verna, bright violet with a bright orange signal area, looks like a miniature dwarf bearded iris but different. Many growers have reported it to be difficult to grow, and I have lost a few. For me, it is happiest on

the east side of our garage, shaded by an oak tree in a bed made acid for azaleas. Leaves are slender and glossy. It is another southeastern U.S. native which, like *I. cristata*, seems hardy in Minnesota, given acid soil and shade.

#### COMPANION PLANTS

Region 14 Bulletin, Volume XXI Number 1, 1977

George Waters: . . . . The ideal garden of tall bearded irises . . . would include plants with leaves of similar grey green color but with a different shape and attitude. Tree peonies, some of which have that greyness in the leaves (sometimes tinged with purple) are good companions for irises. The succulent *Sedum spectabile* makes low mounds of a similar color and is also a good ground cover. The pleated leaves of lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*) have a covering of fine hairs that give a greyish effect and delight early morning visitors with droplets of dew held in the pleats. With them and *Ruta graveolens*, *Geranium macrorrhizum* and other geraniums with soft green hairy leaves, covering for the soil can be provided that is in sympathy with the leaf color of tall bearded irises.

Lamb's ears (*Stachys lanata*) and other plants with strongly silver grey leaves are best excluded from a planting such as this. Their leaf color is so distinctive that they should be set apart from other plants and used in enclosed areas as a background for flowers of certain colors, deep pink for example, where their silver grey is superb.

In the background of the iris planting, the oak-leaved hydrangea could be used. Its leaves have a glaucous quality, but are sufficiently bold in shape to define the limit of the planting. The purple-leaved sumac (Cotinus coggygria) contrasts inoffensively with greys, and touches of its purple color are found in the tree peonies and hydrangeas. The purple color can be extended and its unifying theme strengthened if, among the Sedum sepectabile, are included some plants of Sedum spathulifolum which also has purple tints in its leaves.

The Iris Society of Minnesota "News and Views," February 1977
Peg Edwards (originally published in *The Siberian Iris*): There have been several articles . . . about plants that can be grown among the Siberian irises to good effect in order to provide color in the dull season (that is, any time the irises are not blooming). But I have . . . heard of or experienced myself several combinations I don't believe have been

mentioned.

One suggestion is to interplant the Siberians in a rose bed. I have seen this done and it does look very attractive; the irises provided colors that 32

the roses lacked and those colors blended very harmoniously. The blues and purples of the Siberians seem to intensify the reds and yellows of the roses, and vice versa. Judicious placement of the varying heights of the Siberians allowed the tallest ones to overtop the roses toward the back of the bed, while some of the smaller irises, set well in front or between lower growing varieties of roses, were well positioned for looking down on. The grower helped matters along nicely by his pruning methods for the rosebushes; none was allowed to grow too large for its companions. Care of both kinds of plants is sufficiently similar so that no problem of any seriousness seemed to interfere in a successful planting. But of course the effect was only available during the spring bloom period—there aren't very many Siberians that will bloom when the roses make their big fall splurge. Still, if you like to grow roses as well as Siberians, you might try them together.

A small planting of Siberians in a bed by themselves in a friend's garden was overplanted with the deep purplish-bronze form of ajuga which found a happy home in the spaces between the irises. Ajuga roots are not deep running and do not interfere with the roots of the Siberians, and the owner of this planting says it is not difficult to pull out the occasional plant that crowds too close to the base of an iris. The total effect is very attractive: the bright blue spires (which to me look like tiny pagodas rising above their foliage) enlivened the area while the Siberians were just beginning to make their spring growth, and lasted almost until the first Siberian bloomstalks reached their blooming height. When the irises began to bloom there was no competition for attention . . . . And after bloom there was a harmonious blending of the green iris leaves and the purply ajuga, which lasted till well into the fall . . . . The ajuga helps keep weeds to a minimum, while the foliage of the irises provides shade enough to make the ajuga happy in the hot summer sunlight.

... years ago ... I had ordered some lily bulbs, mostly July bloomers, intending to put them in another part of the garden. But the area I meant to use them in was, at the time the bulbs arrived, putting on such a good display of annuals (which had sulked all summer) that I didn't want to disturb them. What to do? I could, of course, hold the bulbs for a month, till cold weather would put the annuals out of commission. But I don't like to keep lilies out of the ground: they never really go dormant until the ground is frozen. So some place had to be found quickly. The only spot I could see was in the (Siberian) iris bed, where there were a few gaps in the planting, mostly in the center of the bed. So in went the lilies. The result was delightful. Of a dozen varieties planted, only one was lost in the three winters they have spent here; the other eleven have done

well and have increased. By the time the lilies are making their early growth, the various (Siberian) irises are leafing nicely and providing to the lilies the shade they need at ground level to keep the blubs and roots cool. And yet the irises do not grow too tall for the lily foliage, which needs to be in the sun. About the time the last iris flowers have curled up and died, the first of the lilies is nicely budded, and bloom in the first planting provided a series of focal points through July and into August. Stalks ranged from less than two feet to nearly six feet, bloom lasted on individual plants from about ten days to nearly three weeks, and colors varied from white through yellows and oranges to pinks and reds; and except for the Mid-Century hybrids which I really believe would grow enthusiastically even in pure sand, I have never had such good results from any other planting of lilies.

.... A few words of advice might be helpful, however, to anyone wanting to try the same device. You should either confine your choice of lilies to those normally blooming in July and August, or if you do want some blooming along with the (Siberian) irises, stick to those having a white or pastel coloring on fairly tall stalks. I think it would take a fairly strong stomach to carry the sight of one of the strongly colored orangy red lilies—particularly one with very glossy petals—blooming within eye range of some of the more magenta-tinged purples, or even worse, near some of the delicate pinks and lavenders! Also, for this purpose, I wouldn't favor trying to plant cold-storage lilies which are available in the spring from many sources . . . . Spring planted lilies have to make all their root growth at the same time as they make the top growth and this can be just too much for them. Soil for lilies should be prepared at lest eighteen inches deep and for most should be fairly rich and nourishing.

Anothe happy companion for irises and particularly for Siberians is the simple little annual portulaca. Seed can be sown fairly early in spring after the bed has been cleared of any remaining dead foliage, winter mulch, or other unwanted materials. By late June the little plants should be spreading nicely over the ground and the many colorful clusters of flowers will go on blooming until quite cold weather. It is advisable to use some thin sort of summer mulch after the seedlings are well up, as portulaca doesn't make the kind of thick ground cover that can control chickweed, crabgrass, and the other plaguey annuals. I use buckwheat hulls as a summer mulch, about 1 to 1-1/2 inches deep, and most of it holds over well for two or three years without renewing; other similar mulches would do as well.



# A TALL BEARDED COLLECTION FOR THE BEGINNER

# Perry Dyer

The following is a group of 25 varieties I recommend to the beginning grower on a limited budget. Pictures in the large commercial growers' catalogues are great, but a picture cannot tell you if that variety is a good performer. These 25 varieties are proven to be consistently good in most parts of the country and are all reasonably priced and in a wide range of colors.

BLUE LUSTER (Opal Brown)—A lustrous deep blue with an even deeper blue beard. Great form and always throws show stalks. Color varies a bit from year to year with different weather conditions. CARVED CAMEO (Rudolph)—My personal favorite of all of Mr. Rudolph's introductions. It is a shorter variety (28-30") but has good branching and bud count. Flowers are a beautiful shade of cameo pink with impeccable form. CALIENTE (Luihn)—A good consistent red is hard to find, and even CALIENTE occasionally has an "off year." This is the tallest, cleanest garnet red available, and consistently throws show stalks. Very vigorous too, and most reds aren't.

CHARMED CIRCLE (Keppel)—For us, much better and more consistent that the famous STEPPING OUT, although a bit shorter. If you have an early TB show, this clean blue plic will be a contender. DIALOGUE (Ghio)—A silky deep neglecta with a long bloom season (many buds). For us, this heavily ruffled variety is far better than the more popular MYSTIQUE. DUSKY DANCER (Luihn) is more than 10 years old, but still the overall best black variety on the market. Rich intensification in the falls, and a reasonably good grower. FULL TIDE (Opal Brown) was Dykes Medal quality and didn't make it. This tall, show-stalked light blue has a hairline edge of silver mixed in the heavy ruffling. Very vigorous.

GALA MADRID (Peterson)—The first and most famous of the variegatas introduced this last decade. Wide flowers have butterscotch-gold standards with wine-red falls blended with a blue to plum flash. GO-ING MY WAY (Gibson)—a modern STEPPING OUT, but the purple band is even wider. Same show stalks. A purple plic that very nearly won the

Dykes, and should have. IVORY GOWN (Eva Smith)—The least known variety listed, and I'm about the only grower I know of who still grows it! This ruffled ivory-cream has nice form and more consistently throws show stalks than any other variety I grow. However, it's late-late, and this is the reason it wasn't more popular. LATIN LOVER (Shoop)—use this to jazz up your garden. Clean rich colors, with medium to deep pink standards and wine falls, finished with a touch of lace.

LEMON MIST (Rudolph), the "almost Dykes." Consistently beautiful all over the country. This soft lemon is stunning in a clump, but has show stalks also. Not as "frilly" as some, but pleasing, finished form. Vigorous, too. MISS ILLINI (Varner)—This medium to deep yellow is well-known for its show stalks, and as a breeder throws this quality to its children, as is evidenced by the recent superstar, TEMPLE GOLD, its child. MULBERRY WINE (Moldovan)—Also a very good parent, is a heavily ruffled variety. The color is its name. Clean at the hafts, which is difficult in this color range. NEW MOON (Sexton)—The famous yellow Dykes Medal winner, but will prove itself to be even more important as a breeder, as it has already produced hundreds of introductions, and in nearly every color range. NEW MOON does have faults. It is tender in harsh winters and sometimes prone to rot. Branching is inconsistent—the very best Queen of Show or very bad. Still, a worthy variety for the beginner.

PARIS OPERA (Benson)—Not as widely grown as it should be. Some parts of the country do have trouble growing and blooming it, however. A clean sparkling lavender with self beard. Nice stalks and impeccable form and ruffling. PINK SLEIGH (Rudolph)—Another that almost made the Dykes, it is a bit short some years and sometimes not enough buds. Nice form and lace, but the color's the thing! In cold wet years the color may even be a bit muddy. PINK TAFFETA (Rudolph)—Well, Mr. Rudolph did make the Dykes with this one. A beautiful taller lighter pink than PINK SLEIGH with more ruffling than lace. It does forget to bloom sometimes but has good plant habits and nice stalks.

PROSPERITY (Keppel)—A rich gold that is quite sunfast. In some soils it will be closer to brown (bronze) than yellow. Though a bit shorter than most, it throws show stalks (I won Queen of Show with it one year). Main fault is a few brown haft marks, especially in cool years or on cloudy days. PUNCHLINE (Plough)—A big bicolor with brown standards and lavender falls (sometime fading to white) with a broad brown band. Also has show stalks—I won my very first Queen of Show with this 8 years ago—ah, seems like only yesterday! SEA OF GALILEE (Saxton)—A beautiful clean blue amoena with light blue standards and sparkling 36

medium blue falls. Broad flowers. The branches are a little too close to the stalks.

SHIPSHAPE (Babson)—Tall and stately medium to dark blue Dykes winner. Does well in parts of the country where most of Babson's and other Californians' varieties are historically tender. Broad, lightly ruffled flowers. SPANISH GIFT (Shoop)—Although 15 years old, this orange still has the best overall quality of any in this color. Vigorous, dependable bloomer (a rebloomer in some parts of the country) and has good color saturation. Branching and bud count are sometimes variable. SUMMER SUNSHINE (Gibson)—Also a rebloomer for some, this honey-brown on yellow plic has nice form with the finishing touch of lace. Taller and much more dependable than the finicky, inconsistent Dykes winner, KILT LILT. TUFTED CLOUD (Schreiner)—There are many good whites, but this is the giant of them all. Put it in the back of the bed. Huge flowers, well formed, are placed on stalks as thick as ball bats (well, almost!) and anywhere from 40-50". Nothing shy about this one.

This article was written to help the new grower, and not to offend any hybridizer with my candid remarks. These opinions are based on my 14 years of iris growing.

# GIFTS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

July 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979

# MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR:

Z. G. BENSON

Benson Area Iris Society (TX) Mrs. C. L. Waltermire (OK)

HARRY E. BOOTH

Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Soc.(PA)

MRS. MINNIE COSGROVE

Carol Ramsey (KS)

**GUY LACKEY** 

Burdella Rhodes (OK)

JOSEPH J. MILLER

Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Society

CHARLES H. MOORES, SR.

Mr. and Mrs, Leon Wolford (TX)

DR. GENEVIEVE SCOTT

\*Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Society

# GIFTS HONORING: KAY NELSON

\*Tulsa Area Iris Society (OK)

#### OTHER GIFTS:

\*Ruby Buchanan (NC) James Burch (AL) Luella Stopani (OK)

AIS Region 5

\*Larry Harder (NE) New Braunfels Iris Society (TX)

Iris Society of Dallas (TX) Huntsville Chapter AIS (AL)

El Paso Iris Society (TX)

Wisconsin Iris Society Scientific

Research Fund (WI)

\*Special Purpose Gift

# New Regional Vice Presidents





James Copeland

Paul R. Smith, new RVP of Region 3, is a Saratoga, Pennsylvania resident. Paul has been retired from the rubber industry for six years and enjoys picture framing as a hobby when he is not in the garden. He does, however, spend much time in his garden, with an array of iris forms to tend, including MDB, median, TB, Siberian, spuria and Louisiana varieties. In addition, he reports that he does "some hybridizing and has introduced six or seven irises."

Former Area Chairman and Regional Membership Chairman, Paul tries to attend all Region 3 activities. He joined AIS in 1959 and is now a senior judge.

He stated, "Like many other irisarians, I first started seriously growing irises when I purchased one of the grower's specials, 12 irises for \$5.00, quite some time before I joined AIS. I regret not having much enthusiasm during the war years when I spent much time in Sydney, Australia." Obviously. Paul is now a very enthusiastic irisarian.

James Copeland, Region 6's new RVP, is supervisor of one of the State of Michigan's fish hatcheries. He reported that the hatchery is currently undergoing over seven million dollars worth of remodeling.

lim and his wife, Iill, have long been active in AIS activities and are life members. In 1976, the Copeland garden was on tour for the national convention headquartered in Lansing, Michigan.

The Copelands' strongest iris interest is in Japanese irises and after some years of hybridizing, they will introduce their first variety this year. They also grow TBs, MDBs, medians, Siberians and various species.

Former Region 6 treasurer, Jim reported that when he is "not working or in the iris garden," he can probably be found fishing or hunting.

Rita Kinsella, recently installed at Region 9 RVP, lives in Fairview Heights, Illinois, She is the mother of four (one of whom, Susan, is also an AIS member) and the grandmother of five. A widow for 17 years. Rita reports that she just began an enjoyable career as a reservationist for a dinner theatre.

"I enjoy visiting gardens in iris bloom time, enjoy attending national conventions and collect iris artifacts," Rita stated. An AIS member for ten years, she held a wide range of area positions and is program schedule chairman for the 1981 national convention to be held in St. Louis.







O. D. Niswonger

Rita is a charter member of the Fairview Heights Garden Club, a student judge of the National Council of Garden Clubs of America, charter member of Friends of the Library and past president of both that and her garden club. Reflecting on her iris enthusiasm, Rita said, "When I saw the iris TRULY YOURS unfolding in my sister Ada's garden, never did I dream I would become an RVP."

Keith Wagstaff, the new RVP of Region 12, is a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah. Married and the father of three, Keith is a biologist for the Mosquito Abatement District.

As hobbies, he listed gardening, raising tropical fish, collecting butterflies, hunting and fishing. Keith has been an AIS member since 1968, is a judge, Past President of the Utah Iris Society (1971-73) and former Membership Chairman Yearbook Editor for Region 12.

An enthusiastic hybridizer of primarily TB irises, Keith grows up to 800 seedlings each year. His first introduction was TOUCH OF CLASS. He reported that he was introduced to serious irising by Les Peterson and Melba Hamblen; these two, plus Bion Tolman, very much influenced him.

**Dave Niswonger**, new RVP of Region 18, is a hospital administrator. He and his wife, Marie, a teacher, have three children and live in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Among Dave's extensive iris activities have been the presidency of two nearby iris clubs. He is a Senior Judge and Judges Training instructor and is a member of the Median, Spuria and Reblooming sections of AIS.

Best known as an award winning hybridizer, Dave has recently directed his work toward the "development of white and pink with blue beards, pink amoenas, oranges, browns and raspberries" in TB. Also, he

is interested in developing a pink spuria.

He has received the Award of Merit for two TBs, RASPBERRY RIPPLES and LILAC TREAT and for two BBS, RASPBERRY SUNDAE and BROWN LASSO; he introduced the latter for the late Gene Buckles. RASPBERRY RIPPLES garnered the President's Cup; that variety and BROWN LASSO both received the Walther Cup.

Dave is not only an iris hybridizer, but has also introduced two dahlias and six gladiolas, including a seedling that won an All America Award. All phases of horticulture, from vegetable gardening to grafting nut trees, interest Dave.

**Burdella Rhodes**, now the RVP of Region 22, lives in Osage, Oklahoma with her husband, Don and daughter Vicky. Another daughter, Margie, is married and resides in Kansas.

Twenty years of iris growing began in Wichita, Kansas for Burdella. Soon thereafter, her enthusiasm prompted her to join the Wichita Area Life Society and AIS. She private proving "all kinds of irises."

Iris Society and AIS. She enjoys growing "all kinds of irises."

When the Rhodes moved to Osage in 1972, Burdella dug and moved 250 varieties of irises. She now belongs to the Tulsa Area Iris Society, the Sooner State Iris Society and the Oklahoma Iris Society, plus several sections of AIS. She is Past President of the Tulsa Area group.

In addition, Burdella is Publicity Chairman for the 1980 AIS Convention to be held in Tulsa and the Rhodes garden will be part of the tour.

Other new RVP's, W. A. Machulak, Richard Goula, Ron Kessel and John Weiler will be featured in a future issue.

# Domestic News \*

FRED STEPHENSON

## SPEAKER JOINT-HOSTED

Claire Barr, Assistant RVP of Region 4, reports that a joint venture by the Francis Scott Key Iris Society and Chapter of Region 4 with Region 3 resulted in having AIS Membership Secretary Ronald Mullin of Pawnee, Oklahoma participate in summer meetings held by both groups.

Ron was guest of honor at an FSK party where he showed slides of the 1980 Convention gardens. The next day, he spoke on Exhibition Judging at a Judges Training session during the Annual Meeting of Region 3 in Carlisle, PA conducted by RVP Evelyn Kegerise.

Back in Reisterstown, MD for FSK, Ron spoke at a luncheon meeting. His topic, "Making an Iris Club Bloom," gave ideas for promoting irises and AIS, attracting new members, fundraising and meeting programs.

Region 3 and Region 4 members attended the others' meetings, deliberately planned on different topics and engineered to take advantage of Ron's expertise in different areas of irising. Other groups might want to consider joint-hosting of speakers from distant areas, as this eases the financial burden on the participating clubs and promotes inter-region cooperation.

## ARIZONA CLUB IS ACTIVE & INNOVATIVE

Marion Rogers, President of Tucson Area Iris Society in Region 15, reports many activities for the Tucson club. Most outstanding is the refurbishing of the iris beds at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum 90 miles from them. The club was invited to plant new varieties and species in beds to be drawn by the landscape architectural department of the University of Arizona. Rhizomes will be contributed by club members.

Each year the Tucson club holds a public iris rhizome sale where irises are offered at the flat rate of \$1.50 each; the contributor may receive \$1, but few exercise this option. A later auction, for members only, offers newer rhizomes. Upgrading of local gardens is stressed so that visitors may observe the very best.

Each new AIS member recruited at the rhizome sale or iris shows is given \$10.00 worth of rhizomes. Various members keep in touch with the newcomers throughout the year, encouraging them to participate and renew their memberships. Great progress is being made and more can be expected from this club.

#### IRIS FESTIVAL SET

The 1980 Swan Lake Iris Festival mentioned in the January *BULLETIN* will be held at Sumpter, S.C., Region 5, on Thursday, May 29. This most exciting event features Japanese irises, parades, a queen, luncheons, dances and other entertainment. For details, contact the Sumpter Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1229, Sumpter, S.C. 29150.

## PRIZE FOR THE ANSWER OFFERED

Your Domestic News Editor has had some response to the problem of growing irises successfully, year after year, in the same bed, and is hoping to hear more from readers. The mystery of obtaining domestic news on any topic has been puzzling. A year of contacting RVPs and others to request material, with a total of over 90 letters and cards sent, has brought18 replies. Eight of these dealt with news or the lack of it and ten provided a list of clubs within the region as requested. With interesting iris activities going on all over the USA and Canada, why has it been so difficult to obtain news and what is the best way to do so? We need an answer! Your Domestic News Editor is so curious that he is offering two iris rhizomes (1978-1979 introductions of your choice from his garden) for the most interesting letter concerning this problem that offers a practical solution. Deadline for letters is July 15, 1980. Send them to Fred Stephenson, 5608 Merriman Rd., SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24018.







# Sam Reece, CA

The upcoming decade will prove a challenging one for irisdom. Many horizons, many vistas and many frontiers will be explored and many will be conquered, but let us not forget our rich historical past. Without the dedicated people who pioneered our society, and those determined hybridizers who blazed the iris frontiers and those that have followed in their footsteps—today's iris world would not exist. Each step forward for irisdom no matter how small becomes a giant step when combined with all those that have preceded along the path.

# **MEDIANS**

C. O. Torkelson, IA: SWEETIE bloomed nicely on a good clump, but the pods drop off soon after they seemed to take. The GINGERBREAD MAN seedlings were mostly muddy with poor falls, but did like the color and form of LITTLE BILL—the best seen in browns. AVANELLE was a very pleasing, ruffled white IB with very good substance. DAISY is an excellent white SDB—vigorous. GOLDEN DEWDROPS is also a very nice yellow SDB, but on the large side here. I'm looking for oranges and golds, so BRIGHT GOLD has lots of appeal. GAY COMEDIAN is a pleasing violet in the size range I like. KATIE PEARSON is a nice tailored brown IB, with color I have not seen previously. VELVET PRIDE is a vigorous dark violet with excellent coloring, but larger than I perfer.

Mary Alice Hembree, NJ: My best, new to me, dwarfs this year were: BROWN SPECTACLE (I'd classify it as SDB not MDB); CANDY APPLE had nice substance; DRAGON LADY—the color did not turn me on, but it can not be beat for length of bloom and profusion; and SPANISH COINS a cute and bright MTB.

# TALL BEARDED

Ray Blicharz, NJ: A dozen years ago, attending the Chicago convention, I was in the company of Georgia Hinkle, who had a superb eye for a good iris. I have never known her to introduce a bad iris. Her introductions always featured growth, stalks and superb flowers of exceptional

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starchy substance and outstanding form (SOUTHERN COMFORT, REGINA MARIA, IRISH DREAM, ELIZABETH MILES, ROYAL EGYPTIAN, EVE, IN—TRIGUER, BRAVE VIKING, and others). Mrs. Hinkle gave a discussion on what she considered a good iris. She told us that iris lovers, or at least her customers, "don't buy buds or branches, they buy flowers." Assuming that an iris will grow, bloom and increase, too much emphasis is placed on the number of buds and branches. For instance, my idea of a good iris is one growing in a clump featuring many stalks—you do not need 10 or 12 buds to a stalk—in which case, the clump gives a mish-mash effect.

## **GENETICS**

Cleo Palmer; OK: The designation for the gene that converts caroteen yellow into lycopeen (pink), what we call tangerine pink, is (t). It takes 4 factors (tttt) one in each set of the chromosomes to do the converting; it is a recessive trait. The (tt) means it has two (t) factors, or is half pink blood and thus can give pinks if crossed to pinks or other (tt) types. You must have (tt) on both sides in order to get the necessary (tt) factors from both parents to make (tttt) or a pink. It is generally expressed with a capitol (T) representing yellow and being dominant over (t) except in the full four factors. Such as TTTt, TTtt, Tttt all being yellow but the latter two can give pinks if crossed to pinks or (tt) carriers, but the first one can not since it has only one (t) and the best you could do would be a Tttt which would be yellow rather than pink.

**D. C. Nearpass, MD:** A mutation may help to get a true red. Ionizing radiation at the proper dosage may do better than ultra violet. Since so many of the newer "red" irises have never been tested for malvadia, perhaps they too contain that pigment (found in FRANK ADAMS).

As to bud count, I have had a line that produces plants with 14 or more buds to a prime stalk. SNOW FLURRY—9-61-6 (which produced 12 stalks on one 2 year plant and the next year 11 stalks, showing that it was not bloomed out) gave IVY LEAGUE which produced DOVER BEACH. All four of these cultivars will produce, under good conditions, stalks with 14 buds. Few of their seedlings in outcrosses to other lines produce above average bud count.

The introductions of pla types (plicata, all white) have really been scarce over the years. Gibson's SUMMER SILK is probably pla—4x (plus tttt and some carotenoid genes) so is not all white. ORANGE PLUSH may also be similar genetically. APRIL MELODY has been reported to be a carrier. GRECIAN GOWN may be a carrier (or may have a different genetic composition with lack of markings due to I—inhibitor of anthocyanins—whole flower).

My pink EMMA COOK line started with (ENCHANTED VIOLET x EMMA COOK) X PRETTY CAROL. This cross produced COUNTRY MUSIC, which was crossed with LADY OF LOUDON, which comes from RIPPLING WATERS x WHOLE CLOTH. Various tangerine bearded lilac or violet flowers such as MORNING BREEZE and MARQUESAN SKIES, thought to be perhaps carriers of the proper genes, have been brought into the line. I'm also using EXOTIC FLARE. I get flowers in which the border is too pale, or else too much color in the center of the falls, or poor quality. The best one has been only border height.

## PESTICIDE

**Bee Warburton**, **MA:** The following article is from the Purdue Department of Ag Information entitled "New Pesticide Kills Pests by Starvation."

The larvae of lepidopterous insects—those caterpillers that grow up to be moths and butterflies—are naturally hungry, spending their lifetime eating voraciously in preparation for their brief adult life on wings.

As a result, these hungry caterpillers can be significant pests when the target of their feeding is a useful crop. Caterpillars, such as the tobacco hornworm, the corn earworm, the cotton budworm, or the cabbage looper, can cause significant damage. Unfortunately, many pesticides aimed at these caterpillars also kill beneficial insects and other predators, so that spraying to control one set of pests may may make it more difficult to control another group later in the season.

Researchers at Purdue University say that a new type of pesticide—the formanidines—attack the pests by not directly killing them, but by putting the caterpillars on an enforced diet.

As a result, the pesticides are specific to the hungry caterpillars and do not bother most beneficial insects or other predators. Pesticides containing the formanidines are currently cleared for use on cotton, in orchards, and on cole crops.

R. M. Hollingworth, Purdue professor of entomology, has been studying formanidines to learn the effect of the substances both on mammals and on the target insects.

"The first unusual discovery was that these compounds are not highly toxic to insects," he said. "However, even very dilute solutions protect plants from damage by the voracious larvar."

Plant protection comes about in the following way, Hollingworth said:

The caterpillars feed on the treated foliage, but rapidly develop tremors (the shakes) and fall off the plant.

Although they may recover sufficiently to climb back on, they very quickly go on another "bad trip" and fall back off. Eventually they starve to death.

While this is going on, if a passing bird or other predator decides to make a meal of the dieting caterpillar, there is no danger that the predator will be affected by the pesticide because the amount used on the plant or ingested by the insect is so small.

The Purdue researchers have discovered that the formanidines excite the nervous system's version of electrical connectors. They are specialized joinings through which the nerve impulse must pass if it is to travel from one nerve cell to another.

The fromanidines "turn on" some of the synapses which cause nerves to fire and the attached muscles to contract. Thus the "shakes" and "twitches" which cause the caterpillars to fall off the plants.

"We believe these pesticides act in a way that is quite novel and unlike other pesticides," Hollingworth said.

"When we understand more about these synapses and how the pesticide excites them, we hope to be able to devise other ways to interfere with these nerves and thus achieve highly selective and safe plant protection."

Hollingworth added that the formanidines are very toxic to insect embryos and very young larvae which probably is important in their practical effects in the field. "Whether this toxic effect is related to the 'anti-feeding' action is not known—it may be, but we have no evidence," he said.

CORRECTIONS: In the January 1980 **BULLETIN**, the Board of Directors fall meeting minutes, the list of Senior Judges should have included Raymond Thomas, Indianapolis, Indiana, and the RVP of Region 10 should have been listed as Mr. Richard Goula. We regret the errors.



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# North American First Set for Montreal, 1980

Iris versicolor has been selected as the advertising motif for the 1980 Les Floralies International in Montreal, Canada, May 17 to September 1, because "it is a native plant growing all across Quebec Province... to Manitoba," according to Pierre Bourque, Head Horticulturist for the event. Irises are only one part, however, of the extensive plans.

The first such international floral display and conference of its type ever to be held in North America, the program is geared to rival major European floralies. Plans were formulated through the cooperation of Quebec government and industry officials and will use the resources of the City of Montreal and its Bontanical Garden.

Experts from 20 other nations and internationally noted speakers will be participating in the indoor and outdoor floralies. The Indoor Floralies, May 17-29 will be held in Montreal's Velodrome, an extensive and architecturally unique structure created for the 1976 Olympic games. Displays from national representatives and horticultural groups will range from cut flowers and potted plants to floral art and landscaping.

The Outdoor Floralies, May 31-September 1, will be held in a 40 hectares site used for Expo 67. This floral parkland was built in the St. Lawrence River and incorporates the most recent developments in contemporary land-scape art.

One of the most extraordinary features of the outdoor display will be an acre of peat-bog lifted from the taiga surrounding James Bay and painstakingly transplanted to Ile Notre-Dame. Four transport companies helped relocate the blocks of frozen peat, requiring 50 trips of 36-hour length. The result will be a carefully recreated bog with natural carnivourous plants and distinctive shrubs.

In addition to being the theme flower, irises will be featured in an outdoor exhibition that is datelined June 12, with attendant competition. Ten catagories of indoor Floralies and 12 outdoors, thousands of dollars in prizes, a range of seminars and lectures with the vast display areas are expected to attract visitors from around the world.

The June 12 iris colloque at the Floralies pavillion in Ile Notre-Dame, in both French and English, will be of special interest to irisarians, but the extensive offerings on virtually every horticultural subject and the proximity of the international event offer additional incentives to attend. For more information, write to Les Floralies Internationales de Montreal, Bureau du Commissaire general, 360 rue Saint-Jacques, Montreal (Quebec) Canada, H2Y 1P5.

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(Due to improper reporting of new members, the above results may not equal previous recruiting reports. Please follow rules for reporting new members in the January '80 BULLETIN, page 56.) 54

# DENVER '82! A REQUEST FOR GUESTS

Region 20 (Colorado) will host the 1982 American Iris Society Convention, with headquarters in Denver. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest plants of recent introduction and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.

The altitude in our area produces conditions which are not favorable for 100% bloom on 1 year plants. Therefore, we urge you to send most, if not all of your guests this summer. You may send rhizomes early in 1981

(July 15 deadline) at your own risk.

Because the exact date of peak bloom is unpredictable, we encourage you to send 4 rhizomes of each guest. The varied locations and elevations should enhance the chances of good bloom in at least one garden.

Please observe the following guidelines when sending guests—

1. Send 1 to 4 rhizomes of each tall bearded variety.

2. Guest rhizomes will be accepted between July 1 and August 15, 1980.

- 3. All official guest irises must be sent to: Guest Iris Chairman Mary Ann Cuthbert, 8579 East Long Avenue, Englewood, Colorado 80112. UPS—okay.
- 4. The following information should accompany each plant:
  - A. Hybridizer's name, address, and phone number.
  - B. Name (or number) of the variety.
  - C. Type of iris, e.g., TB, BB, etc.
  - D. Year of Introduction.
- 5. When guest seedlings under number are named before the convention it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman before Nov. 1, 1981 so that changes can be made on

labels and guest iris listings.

- 6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. A loss report will be sent to hybridizers so that duplicate plants may be sent if desired. Soon after the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of plants. Failure to reply by July 1, 1982 will be considered as an order to dispose of all stock in question. All other official guest plants will be returned with postage C.O.D. or UPS collect.
- 7. The Convention Committee and Guest Iris Committee take all precaution to protect guest irises. The Guest Iris Committee is not responsible for losses beyond its control. Responsibility of the Guest Iris Committee extends only to plants sent through the Guest Iris Chairman

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REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFILIATION MAY BE FOUND ON PAGE 57 **BULLETIN** NUMBER 233

Mrs. Edward Owen Chairman of Affiliates

# **BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES**

DISPLAY ADVERTISING (Single Issue)

 One-inch
 \$25.00
 Two-thirds page
 \$73.00

 One-quarter page
 31.00
 Three-fourths page
 82.00

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 40.00
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 100.00

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 56.00

Cover ads .....\$100.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue.)

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:

Ms. Kay Nelson, Advertising Editor

P. O. Box 37613

Omaha, NE 68137

# Editor's Notebook

Much to our disgust, Murphy's Law innovations germinated rapidly through production of the January 1980 issue, with new hybrid variety problems. We could give an Award of Dismerit to the most original predicament or a High Consternation certificate for the best violet dilemma introduced by circumstance. Instead, we sent these problems to the compost pile where they belong. We don't want to see them again.

A happier note . . . thanks again to the readers who send comments and suggestions. All are carefully considered and every article is appreciated. Space may delay printing of some excellent material and pictures we had hoped to use, but we continue to try for the best possible balance.

Your Editor's recent move from Maryland to California, requiring a seven-day drive across the nation, plus reflections on conventions and meetings attended in many areas, again emphasized the versatility of our flower—and the importance of continuing in former Editor Phil Edinger's path of publishing details and comparisons of varieties and their success in various climes. This issue contains a precis of last year's Dykes balloting by region.

The Tulsa '80 Convention offers a look at midwestern iris performance of both recent and future introductions. One reader wrote that we should not waste *BULLETIN* space on descriptions of numbered seedlings, since few readers follow up to learn the introduced names later. From the commercial point of view, this is true, but how else can we see future directions in form, color and pattern?

And iris lasting power will be easier to evaluate at this year's convention. Each day's tour includes a visit to a master planting. Congratulations to Ron Mullin, Convention Chairman and Guest Iris Chairman Dorothy Howard plus the entire Convention Committee there for this arrangement.

There's so much to see, consider, learn and enjoy in irising that pleasure parameters are limited only by involvement. Conventions are a prime example of opportunity. See you in Tulsa?

#### MESSAGE FROM IRELAND

An enquiry from CELIA MATTEI, Mount Congreve Estate, Kilmeaden, County Waterford, Ireland, states that she is most interested in starting a business in growing irises, and to learn the ropes is anxious to find employment with an American firm. If interested, please write directly to Celia.

# AVONBANK IRIS GARDENS

# 1980 Introductions

BAKED ALASKA—White meringue toasted golden brown here and there with blueberry blue beards. Large, wide, handsome flowers on very good stalks in a new coloring for tall beardeds. Fertile both ways, and strong, thrifty plants. No dwarf blood. \$30.00
CAROL ANN—A truly angelic flower, of opulent size and exquisite form and coloring. On a soft yellow background, there are texture veinings of lavender blue. A bewitching coloring seldom, if ever, seen in a non-aril. Excellent growth and fully fertile either way. \$35.00
EARL OF ESSEX—An exciting, fully reblooming orchid on white plicata of excellent, wide form and substance. All rebloom comes in the first week of October; the spring bloom is very early. Very frost-resistant and excellent keeper in refrigeration. Also fully fertile either way!
HELEN McKINNELL—A taller daughter of MISS VENUS introduced on demand. Not wide, but its long, upward-curving pedicels end in delightful spoons that entrance all visitors. A light pink self, it is a remarkable grower, and is fully fertile either way. Narrow foliage
LOVE'S ALLURE—Well-named, for it is hard to define! Basically, it may be a rose-pink blend with lots of vibrancy and some of the texture veining of its sibling, CAROL ANN. A strong personality, excellent in all respects! It is also fertile both ways and a top-notch parent
MAGIC VIOLET—Introduced for hybridizers, this is a wonderfully-formed flower that is a surefire October remontant here. Excellent for imparting width and good form, but does not increase fast enough. Only a few to go. Parent of SONG OF SALVATION
MOUNTAIN GREENERY—This one is for the lovers of green. A very large green-tinted yellow with green texture veining. Excellent form and substance. Wonderful stalks and an excellent grower like its siblings, CAROL ANN and LOVE'S ALLURE. A fertile pod parent. Aha!
SPOON TIME—A full yellow self with rather wide hafts and vertically-held spoons. Form and substance are very good, and the growth is superb. A modern, up-to-date, spooned iris of great appeal. \$25.00
TUDOR ENGLAND—White standards are heavily overlaid with dark violet, like storm clouds. The near-white falls are surprisingly bordered in a golden chartreuse, which is the color of the buds! Show-bench stalks of perfect placement support the very large flowers of excellent substance and delightful form. Fertile both ways, it would rebloom if our season lasted another month.  \$25.00
YOUTH DEW—Our fragrance introduction for 1980! The sweetest, most delightful perfume in an iris. Wide, heliotrope self that opens four at a time easily, and has the buds to go on and on. On top of all that, it is a reliable rebloomer in first week of October or earlier. \$20.00

Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg, Box 5691, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142 Send 30¢ in stamps for fully descriptive catalogue of reblooming and reblooming-bred irises.

# From MISSION BELL GARDENS for 1980 All Hamblen varieties.



#### Tall Bearded

- BANJO MAN. 34" (86 cm), M. Sultry dark purple standards, falls same with large blue-violet centers. Bronze beards. Lustrous, sparkling. Strong, well-branched stalks. (Touche x Gala Madrid) X Gypsy Prince. HC '79. #H73-103E.....\$25.00
- LOVELY KAY. 32" (81 cm), ML. With its pod parent's form and showing the influence of pollen parent's exquisite color, this medium pink has deeper toned hafts

and falls centered with a lighter area to accent the bright red-orange beards. In cool weather the color may show a hint of orchid. Well-spaced flowers on strong stems. (Pretty Nancy X Pink Sleigh). HC '79. #H73-17L.....\$25.00

#### Intermediate Bearded

Free catalog listing more than 500 varieties available May 1.

Jim and Melba Hamblen

2778 West 5600 South

Rov. Utah 84067

## NEW IRISES FOR 1980

FORMAL ATTIRE (N. Henderson '80). Crystal-white ground plicata with broad border of deep blue-black (RHS 89A) and pencil line along midrib of standards. Falls pleasantly ruffled; blue-black stylearms and beard. Very striking. (Stepping Out X Blue Petticoats) . . . . . . . \$35.00

**DANCING BLUE** (N. Henderson '80). This is the nearest to a true blue that I have ever seen. It even photographs blue without a filter. Medium blue self (RHS 97B) with white beard and broadly flaring, slightly ruffled falls. (Sterling Silver X South Pacific) . . . . . . . . \$30.00

**SMOKY JO** (N. Henderson '80). White ground plicata with wide, stippled smoky blue-violet (86A) bordered and scattered stipples on falls. S. almost completely covered with blue-violet stipples. Deep blue-violet beard and stylearms. When crossed with Odyssey, it gave many bizzare, unstable plicatas. (Stepping Out X Tea Apron) . . . . . . \$25.00

**PECULIAR GOLD** (N. Henderson '80). Tall, 38" (97 cm), rich golden yellow (17B) self; yellow-orange beard. Strong, pleasant, orange-peel fragrance. (Named for the small town where garden is located). (Brass Accents X Ultrapoise) . . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

**PEGGY JEAN** (N. Henderson '80). Orange-buff (22C) self, blending to almost white at the tip of the rich yellow beard, heavily ruffled at center edge of F. Up to 15 buds gives a long bloom season. (Rainbow Gold X Celestial Snow).....\$25.00

# DR. NORLAN C. HENDERSON 7215 Washington Kansas City, MO 64114



## D. STEVE VARNER—Illini Iris N. State Street Road, Monticello, IL 61856

#### 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

LILAC AND LAVENDER (Greenlee-Varner). SDB, Sdlg. G1, ML, 7-9". A most distinctive color-delicate pinkish blending of lilac and lavender with color lightening at hafts, beard and lightly in center of flaring falls. One branch, very floriferous. (Pearl Sheen X Greenlee: (Cretica x Cherie) F4)......\$20.00

ROSE GARDEN (Greenlee-Varner). IB, Sdlg. G21, M, 16-18". Long blooming. rosy mauve with both violet and blue veins on falls. Orange-yellow beard. Seven blooms displayed on a three-branched, refined show stalk. It has the most delightful FRAGRANCE of any iris I know. Parentage unavailable.

\$20.00

AGAPE LOVE: TB, Sdlg. V666, ML, 35". This is hard to adequately describe—light chartreuse-flesh stds., falls same with lavender flush and chartreuse edges and hafts. Ruffled, with four branches; nine large blooms of excellent form have white-tipped chartreuse-light tangerine beards. From complicated parentage: blue-white and pink-white reverse seedlings. 

DAWN MELODY: Pictured on back cover. TB, Sdlg. V623, EM, 36", 4 branches, 9 buds. Medium rose-caramel stds., bright violet-rose falls banded brown. Light orange beard fades to almost white. (Love Is X Up Date). \$25.00

STOLEN LOVE: TB, Sdlg. V299, ML, 36", 4 branches, 8 buds. Blush pink stds., rose-pink falls with light area around medium red beard. (Varner 9100, pink 

#### SIBERIANS

KISMET: Sdlg. V704, EM, 35", 2 branches, 5 buds. Bright, medium deep red from purple side with small white signal area. (Tealwood X Maranatha) . \$25.00

ODE TO LOVE: Sdlg. V790, EM, 32", terminal branch. Distinctive, wide, 

OUTER LOOP: Sdlg. V586, EM-M, 32". Dappled bright medium blue; falls deeper at edges. Contrasting whitish light blue styles. Excellent parent. (Marlya X Swank)......\$25.00

1979 Introductions: AVON, BATTLE FURY, BELFAST, BETTY WOOD, MT. COOK, NEW WINE, PRAIRIE PEDDLER, RARE JEWEL.

1978 Introductions: ANN DASCH, EVELYN C., FRAGRANT CLOUD, FRIENDLY WELCOME, FULL CRY, GUYS AND DOLLS.

Order directly from this ad or request our price list with more detailed descriptions of our irises and listing Hemerocallis, our former introductions and others' Siberians. Please add \$2.00 to help with packing and shipping. Bearded iris orders will be shipped in order received, starting July 1, and Siberians starting Sept. 10—unless you specify desired shipping dates. Please give street or RR and directions for UPS delivery.

# QUALITY REBLOOMERS 1980 Garden of R. G. Smith

SUMMER OLYMPICS (1980). A brilliant greenish yellow reblooming self. Huge, great increase, a super iris \$30.00
EARL ROBERTS (1980). Magnificent ruffled white worthy of honoring a great irisarian. Not a rebloomer here \$30.00
(Both of the above for \$45.00)
<b>RE-TREAT</b> (1978). A fine medium purple rebloomer that quickly forms a gorgeous clump. Sometimes blooms or reblooms with a narrow silver line around all standards and falls \$20.00
AL SEGNO (1978). Stately, clean, deep purple rebloomer. Not as floriforous as Re-Treat, but taller and more majestic \$20.00
(All four of the above for \$70.00)
LEMON REFLECTION (1978). Reblooming heavily ruffled light yellow self. A great addition to the rebloomer class \$20.00
LEMON DUET (1978). A very wide, heavily substanced warm white rebloomer with a lemon border on the falls that gives the effect of a bi-color
ORCHID LIGHT (1976). Opens and closes the season here with multiple blooms per placement. Very showy, not a rebloomer
RETURNING PEACE (1974). Tangerine-bearded white
rebloomer. \$7.50
FALL FULFILLMENT (1972). A small reblooming
Stepping Out
MOONLIGHT DUET (1972). A wide, flaring, yellow plic rebloomer
RETURNING GLORY (1972). Beautiful tangerine-bearded pink. \$4.00
(All four of the immediately above for \$15.00)
Order from this advertisement. Nothing else for sale. Strong, fertile, cold climate, disease-resistant plants. Shipment dependent upon maturation, usually in July. No extras with discount combinations.

# **BURCH IRIS GARDENS**

717 Pratt Avenue, NE - Box 10003 Huntsville, AL 35801

- JEWELED STARLIGHT (Burch). TB, 45", M-L (74-21C). This pale yellow and white bicolor reminds one of sparkling jewels on a moonlit night. Its properly placed branches usually hold three open blossoms on a show stalk. The tightly closed standards are pale yellow (RHS 8C) with ¼" ruffled, bold (13B) band around edges of the white falls. The full orange beard (28B) enhances the brightness. A typical stalk has three branches and a terminal with nine buds. (Launching Pad X Radiant Beam). HC 1979. . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

- BILL BLEDSOE (Bledsoe). TB, 34", L (74-22). Mary Lou selected this iris to be named after the AIS great and his true-blue character. This tailored iris has a self beard and very clean hafts. The standards are pale blue-violet (RHS 91C), deepening to 91A near the border. Falls are blue-violet (91C) also. There are three branches and seven buds. Those who visited the Bledsoe garden during the Memphis convention will remember the huge, gorgeous clump that Bill was so proud to show. Night Heron X (Golden Opportunity x Reta Fry).

.....\$25.00

# ECHO HILL GARDEN Dorothy S. Palmer

851 Weidmann Road

Manchester, MO 63011

#### 1980 Introductions

- GOLD BURST—Sdlg. 4676R: (involved parentage). A crisp, shimmering, pristine white flower distinguished by having a broad, gold haft. The fluffy, crimped white standards touch but never open. Stylearms are white. The snow white falls are ruffled and pleated, with the startling, eye-catching, gold hafts extending quite far down, making a delightful contrast. Matching gold beard. There has been an especially complimentary response from those who have seen it in the guest plantings in Tulsa. A vigorous grower. Remember, there's gold in this attention-getting iris. Mid, 35". HC 1979. . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

#### 1979 Introductions

BRIGHT OUTLOOK - Medium yellow	00.0
MIRRORED SKY—Pale blue	00.5
SHEER POETRY—Buff blend	2.00
SPRING FROLIC—White edged buff-peach \$20	00.0

#### COTTAGE GARDENS

#### PROUDLY PRESENT

Please order from this ad or write for free catalog 22549 Center Street Hayward, California 94541

#### THE 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

#### BAMBOO CAPER (Don Denney, 1980). BB, M, 26".

#### COMMUNIQUE (James McWhirter, 1980). TB, E, 38".

#### PETALUMA (Don Denney, 1980). TB, EM, 36".

#### SINALOA (Bob Brown, 1980). TB, M, 38".

## SNEAK PREVIEW (John Nelson, 1980). TB, VE, 38".

#### SOCIAL BUTTERFLY (Don Denney, 1980). TB, M, 32".

#### WEDDING PARTY (James McWhirter, 1980). TB, M, 35".

Truly a spring color bouquet. Flowers of orchid and lavender, blended to a shade that is sure to please your eye. The medium-sized flowers are displayed well with three-way branching plus terminal, with lace added to set the mood of this extremely feminine creation. Truly an addition to any wedding party! (Pink Sleigh X Fairy Magic). HC 1979 . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

#### INTRODUCTIONS FROM DAVE NISWONGER

- CINNAMON ROLL (Niswonger '80). SP 8-72: Intensity X Elixir. Spuria, 42" (107 cm), DR8. This has been one of my favorite seedlings for several years. It's dependable, easily grown, vigorous, especially resistant to late freezes as far as bloom is concerned. Its deep brown blooms with a yellow signal and very often three blooms open at one time make it an attractive clump in the spuria border. Its foliage stays greener most of the year compared with other hybrids of similar parentage, and the high quality seedlings it is producing convinced me that this one should be introduced. Hybridizers in the colder areas will want to use this one in their breeding
- **KAYO** (Niswonger '80). SDB, 3-78: Knockout X pollen parent lost (probably Golden Starlet), 12"-14" (30-36 cm), FY/DY1. A bright yellow with an electric blue beard. The standards are a little lighter than the falls. Similar to Knockout but appears to be more vigorous for me. Its pollen is blue, which makes it interesting. \$10.00
- MELON SUPREME (Niwsonger '80). Sdlg. 19-77: Coral Strand X Peach Spot. TB, 33" (84 cm), W5/06, Early to Mid, fertile both ways, 7 buds. This is a cantaloupe amoena from my pink amoena breeding program. There is a slight apricot color in the midribs of the standards and stylearms. The falls are light orange with a white rim, and the bright tangerine beard makes for a delightful color combination. It favors Peach Spot more than Coral Strand in color, but has the vigor and branching of Coral Strand. More seedlings saved from this cross to date than any other. It should be helpful in breeding pink amoenas. The stock is limited, but I wanted to make it available soon for breeders. \$25.00
- METALLIC BLUE (Niswonger '80). Sdlg. 18-73: Claremont Classic X Elusive Dream. TB, 34" (81 cm), Mid, fertile both ways, 8-9 buds, HC '79. A distinctive, silvery blue from blue-bearded breeding. The beard is also silvery. The branching is superb and should make a dandy show contender. Very vigorous and a dependable bloomer. Many comments received on it at Huntsville. This one is something different for your garden................\$25.00
- MULBERRY CRUSH (Niswonger '80). Sdlg. 8-76: (Lilac Treat X Raspberry Ripples) X ((Sapphire Fuzz x Rippling Waters) x (Sapphire Fuzz x Pink Flurry)). TB, 32" (81 cm), Mid, fertile both ways. From the the hybridizing standpoint, there are two reasons for introducing this one. It has pink with blue beard breeding potential and has produced some fantastic banded seedlings with lace and ruffles. From the beauty standpoint, there are all kinds of reasons. The standards are rosy magenta, and the falls are pale magenta with a deeper magenta band on lacy, ruffled edges (RV/PRV6RV-ro). The beard is white tipped with tangerine frosting. It looks almost good enough to eat. I know you will like it. \$25.00

## CAPE IRIS GARDENS

822 Rodney Vista Blvd. Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Catalog available on request

(Have you tried BROWN LASSO, SILVER HEATHER, LILAC THRILL or CORAL STRAND?)

## RIVERDALE IRIS GARDENS

#### Glenn and Zula Hanson

7124 Riverdale Road

Minneapolis, MN 55430

#### Introductions for 1980

For full descriptions of these and several other introductions, write for our free catalog with an extensive listing of dwarfs and medians.

#### Miniature Dwarf Bearded

# Standard Dwarf Bearded

lemon yellow. Pale blue beard. \$7.50

RED-EYED LADY (D. O. Rawdon) SDB. Dark yellow with prominent redbrown thumbprint on falls. White beard. \$7.50

GYPSY EYES (Julius Wadekamper) SDB. Fine plicata. Creamy white

ground, smoothly and heavily marked mulberry. \$7.50 **TUMBAGO** (Julius Wadekamper) SDB. Bright golden yellow stds. Cream falls veined yellow-brown. Green midribs. \$7.50

# Intermediate Bearded

#### **Border Bearded**

BLUE TREASURE (Maybelle Wright) BB. Light orchid-blue stds. Pale blue falls, near white. White beard. This is the seedling much admired at previous conventions. \$20.00

#### Miniature Tall Bearded

#### Tall Bearded

**PURPLE PIQUE** (David Johnson) TB. With our usual stock-in-trade of dwarfs and medians, we had to include this magnificent TB. A tower—ing, huge-flowered, rich true purple with dark violet beard. . . . . . \$20.00

#### Also Co-Introducing

All of the dwarf and medium introductions of Palmer Iris Gardens as advertised in the *Medianite*. Also the creations of W. E. Jones with Contemporary Iris Gardens. All fully described in our free catalog. See also Carol Lankow's ad for her introductions in this same issue.

# **MELROSE GARDENS**

# 309 AA Best Road South

# Stockton, CA 95205

# 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

#### Tall Bearded

Tall bearded
SILVER YEARS (Hager) for our twenty-fifth catalog! Silver and white. \$30.00 SHAMAN (DuBose). Metallic buff and black-maroon bicolor. \$30.00 LEDA'S LOVER (Hager). Broad breasted and frilly white. \$30.00 FINAL CURTAIN (Hager). Deep orchid. The last to bloom. \$25.00 GHOST RIDERS (Babson). Ghostly grey. Huge. \$30.00 Novelty
SKY HOOKS (Manley Osborne). Yellow with BLUE HORNS. \$35.00
Border Bearded
PINK BUBBLES (Hager). Full sister to Beverly Sills but a tiny, clear pink \$25.00
Miniature Tall Bearded (all 48-chromosome tetraploids)
LOUISE HOPPER (Hager) for a good friend, longest time customer on record and devotee of MTBs. Canary yellow
DINKY (Hager). Very small white
PUPPY LOVE (Hager). Clear pink
Intermediate Bearded
WHY NOT (Hager). Orange; brightest beards
Standard Dwarf Bearded
FAD (Hager). Lavender and gilt. \$10.00
MUSIC BOX (Hager). Orchid and gold. \$10.00
PLAY MISTY (Hager). Luminata. White, hazed lavender. \$10.00
GARDEN FAVORITE (Hager). Richly colored neglecta. \$10.00
Miniature Dwarf Bearded
FOOTLIGHTS (Hager). Shapely yellow
PETTY CASH (Hager). Deep yellow. \$10.00
BLUETWEEN (Hager). 7 and 9/10-inch medium blue; small flowers \$10.00
PERSIAN DOLL (Kavan). Warm white; brown beards
Frank Chowning's Louisinas COUNT PULASKI (Chowning). Tall yellow and copper blend. Admired at Huntsville!
NET \$30.00*
LITTLE ROCK SKIES (Chowning). Short mid-blue NET \$25.00*
BLACK GAMECOCK (Chowning). Low growing, darkest purple
*NOTE: NET means full price—no discount. Extras will be given.
Spuria
ELEANOR HILL (Hager) for one of our very first spuria customers and a Grand Lady, this unusual spuria with light purple standards and brassy gold falls \$25.00 GILDED CHALICE (Hager). First from the cross of Archie Owen and Far Out. Light
yellow
THESPIAN (Hager). Seen at two conventions as cut stalks. Short, velvet purple; gold
signals. \$25.00 OTHER WORLDS (Hager). BIG flowers in hazy lavender. \$20.00
BEVERLY SILLS (1979) will be in good supply for 1980, but hurry—she sold out last year.
\$35.00
PRICING POLICY: YOU PAY ONE-HALF OF THE ABOVE PRICES WITH NO
EXTRAS excepting NET items which are full price with extras.
For full descriptions and parentage, our illustrated, TWENTY-FIFTH catalog is \$1.50,
mailed first class, NOT deductible.
/0

#### SUBTLE ANNOUNCEMENT

TB, #327-1, 34", HC '79, 18 votes. (Pearl Chiffon X Point Clear). Well received at Huntsville in '79. Smooth, cool lavender-pink self—beard, too! Three branches and terminal. Seven to nine buds. Vigorous and fertile both ways. Round, flaring falls. Closed, domed standards. Ruffled. \$25.00

#### WINE COLORED DAYS

TB, -638-1, 34". (Song of Paris X Raspberry Ripples). Two shades darker, one size larger and much, much smoother than pollen parent. Metallic sheen! Extremely beautiful branching and placement—typical of its pollen parent. Bright, ruffled and very showy. Fertile both ways. One for the show bench. . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

#### **MOUNTAIN DEW**

#### **JARED**

SDB, #555-1, 11". (Angel Music X Stockholm). A SDB "Gold Trimmings"! 3 buds. Full, flaring, round and ruffled. Unique! Fertile both ways.

#### HEE HAW

SDB, #559-15, 10". (Knotty Pine X Marinka). Standards are antique gold trimmed with ¼" maroon. Falls are creamy white with shoulders peppered maroon. One branch, 3 buds. Flaring with hint of ruffles. Clean and perky. Pod fertile. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$5.00

## DEET

SDB, #539-2, 10". (Three Smokes X Stockholm). Tailored, very round, flaring sherbet green self. Smooth and creamy. Fertile both ways.

#### **IABBERWOCKY**

SDB, #556-1, 12", HC '78. (Tornado Capers X Soft Air). Closed standards are antique-lavender-gold. Lavender falls trimmed antique gold. Very noticeable lavender beards. Sometimes 2 branches with 5 buds. Usually 1 branch with 3 buds. Pod fertile. Difficult pollen parent. Flaring and ruffled. . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$5.00

#### **BOCHAMP**

#### **AGRIPPINELLA**

Orders under \$25 add \$2 for handling and postage. Bearded irises shipped mid-July. Japanese irises shipped May or September.

## STERLING INNERST

2700-A Oakland Road

Dover, PA 17315

# GARDEN of the ENCHANTED RAINBOW (Breeding for vigor and weather-resistance)

#### Introducing for 1980

* COOL SILOAM (B. Miller). TB, 32", E. A cool, peaceful aura emanates from this pale, creamy tan with greenish overlay. Wide, flaring, lightly ruffled falls. A few, tiny, brown pencil marks deep in throat. Closed standards. Yellow beard. Good increase, vigor and floriferousness. 3 branches and terminal. (Snoqualmie x Pink Formal) X Claudia Rene \$25.00   * RAHAB OF JERICHO (B. Miller). TB, 38", EM. Smouldering, seductive, crimson scarlet blend. Iridescent spot on falls. Color pigments are so closely balanced, there are purple overtones in cool, damp weather; orange-scarlet overtones in hot, dry weather. Huge flowers, clean haft; flaring, lightly ruffled falls, becoming horizontal as flower ages. Tightly closed standards. Slight fragrance. Two branches and terminal, all double socketed. Fires of Gehenna X Frontier Marshall. \$30.00   * TAMAR'S PLEDGE (B. Miller). TB, 32", EM. A beguiling, Oriental princess. Light, true orange, faint blush of pink at base of standards. Very ruffled. Small white area under flam-
ing red-orange beard. Sweetly fragrant. Three branches and terminal, 3 of them double-
socketed. (((Ola Kola x Pink Formal) x Technicolor) x Orange Parade) X Flaming Star
Older Introductions—all TBs
GOLIATH CHALLENGED (1979). Vigorous, well-branched crimson breeder for height and branching. (Ranger x Pacemaker) X Heaven's Largesse
ADAM'S FALL—\$8.00; EVE'S TEMPTATION—\$8.00; SAMARITAN WO-MAN—\$7.00; RESURRECTION STORY—\$7.00; JASPER WALLS—\$5.00; FIRES OF GEHENNA—\$5.00; RUTH OF MOAB—\$3.00; HEAVEN'S

Terms: No order under \$5.00. Over \$12.00 pay only half price, except for starred (\*) varieties, which are priced as listed. Send \$1.75 with orders to cover handling change. We offer the best of the old, all top garden beauties, choice for hybridizing for vigor. We offer many new ones; also rebloomers and some medians. Send stamp for price list. Note change of address:

LARGESSE-\$2.50; RAINBOW PROMISED-\$2.50

Jordan A. and Bernice M. Miller Rt. 4, Box 439B, Killen, Alabama 35645

# Mount Clare Iris Gardens

3036 N. Narragansett Ave.

Chicago, IL 60634

Home of the Aril Iris of the Great Lakes Region Since 1941

#### 1980 Introductions

#### **Former Introductions**

1979: WINDSTOPPER (½). 1978: FOR PLEASURE (¼), SNOW OVER CHICAGO (½), BLACK DAZZLER (½), ARIL LANDMARK (pure aril). 1977: LAWRENCE WELK (TB), GENETIC BURST (½), ENCHANTED MORNING (TB), STOP FLIGHT (BB), COUNTRY MORNING (½), BIONIC BURST (½). 1976: ARIL LADY (¼), GENETIC DANCER (½), GENETIC MOMENT (½). 1975: MOON DUST (½), MORNING RADIANCE (½), WINTER'S CHARM (BB). 1974: TUL KEREM (¾), GOLDEN DOLPHIN (½). 1973: STARS OVER CHICAGO (½), QUOTE ME (½). 1972: MISS MID AMERICA (½), GENETIC LEADER (½), GENETIC ARTIST (½).

#### **Earlier Introductions**

TEMPLE DANCER, TWILIGHT DANCER, SUMMER SET, ONE MORE KISS, RADIANT SMILE, BIG BLACK BUMBLEBEE, FLURRY OF NEPAL, COLLECTOR'S PRIDE and STRATISPHERE ANGEL.

ARIL SLIDES—We have two slide collections of pure arilbreds which clubs can use free. A 30-day notice must be given before being used.

We have no other irises for sale except our own introductions. Send for our brochure describing all introductions since 1960. Correspondence invited at all times

HENRY DANIELSON PHONE BE 7-6429, Area code 312

#### **FOR 1980**

#### 1979



Cinnamon Kisses

CINNAMON KISSES—TB, 34", E-Mid and Rebloom. Ecru standards, lavender-pink falls. Cinnamon markings around gold beard. Good branching and bud count. (Rippling Waters X Autumn Twilight). Reblooms in mid-October in Northern California.....\$25.00

## FRANK J. FOSTER 11115 Bodega Hwy. Sebastopol, California 95472



#### The Permanent Metal Label 30 for \$5.25 -Plant or Shrub Labels . . . . . . . . . 100 for \$3.50 30 for \$5.25 Cap Style Markers . . . . -Swinging Style Markers..... 30 for \$4.50 -Rose Markers . 30 for \$5.20 H-Pot or Rock Garden Markers..... 30 for \$3.90 M-Mini-Rose Markers .....

#### PAW PAW EVERLAST LABEL CO.

Box 93-H Paw Paw, Michigan 49079 Quantity Prices Available

Postage Prepaid

#### LUIHN'S IRIS GARDEN Walt and Vi Luihn

523 Cherry Way

Hayward, CA 94541

#### 1980 Introductions

#### WETHERSFIELD IRIS GARDEN

#### 1980 Introductions

#### **Aril-Medians**

- PINKEVA (Gadd '80). Sdlg. 24-74. AR-MED, 15" (38 cm), E. Phlox pink self; yellow beard. Lady X Amethyst Accent...........\$20.00
- **LAKE BESECK** (Gadd '80). Sdlg. 24C-74. AR-MED, 15" (38 cm), E. Hyacinth blue (HCC 40/2) self; blue beard. Sib to Pinkeva. . . . . . . . . . . . \$20.00

#### Fred and Mary Gadd

172 Main Street

Wethersfield, CT 06109

#### **INTRODUCING FOR 1980**

ART SONG (Spence '80). TB, 35", Midseason. Sdlg. 69-7: (Gateway X Fond Wish). Laced
medium lavender self with tangerine beard. Tall and well branched—4 branches with 7
buds\$25.00

#### Previous Introductions

GOLDEN ODYSSEY '79	\$20.00	VIENNA COUP '76 \$10.00
LIFE MASTER '78	\$20.00	HALL OF SONG '75 \$ 5.00
NICKELODEON '78	\$20.00	MARQUESA '75
DIVA '77	\$15.00	CENTER RING '74
NEAPOLITAN '77	\$15.00	MELODY D'AMOUR '74 \$ 5.00
END PLAY '76	\$10.00	TAHITIAN GLOW '74
GENTLE SPIRIT '76	\$10.00	VALENTINA '73
SOLDIER'S CHORUS '76	\$10.00	MUSETTA'S WALTZ '73 \$ 4.00
NO CATA	ALOG	ORDER from this ad.

HERBERT J. SPENCE

3461 Adams Avenue

Ogden, Utah 84403



#### MAPLE TREE GARDENS

LARRY L. HARDER

PONCA, NEBRASKA 68770

#### 1980 Introduction

FOREVER (Larry L. Harder). TB, 34", Midseason. This ruffled white iris has personality. One of those irises that is set apart in a crowd. The ruffling and fluting make it distinctive. The lacy edge adds that etheral quality to the heavy substance of the flower. Flared falls, domed standards. A light tangerine beard sets off the whiteness of the flowers. Good, heavy, ramrod stalks display the well-spaced flowers to advantage. Sdlg. 74-27: (Flaming Heart X Arctic Flame). HC 1979. ...\$25.00 1979 Introduction:

JUBILEE TRAIL. HC 1979. ...\$20.00

BRONZE FIRE—SDB. ...\$5.00

Visit the garden during the Region 21 Spring Tour May 31-June 1. Free catalog upon request featuring the latest TBs and Medians.

#### SAXTON IRIS GARDEN

1011 Cole Drive

Huntsville, AL 35802

#### 1980 Introduction

LIFESTYLE—Sdlg. 75-14. TB, 36", M. Light amethyst-violet self (RHS 84C). Medium yellow beard. Domed and touching standards; wide, semi-flaring falls with pleated ruffles. Averages more than 3 branches and 8 buds. (Foggy Dew X Milestone). \$25.00

#### 1979 Introductions - \$20.00 each

STRATEGY-Full violet self. HC 1979.

**LIFTOFF**—Pale yellow and light violet bicolor blend. HC 1979. **HEART OF DIXIE**—Full red-violet self.

 $Free\ price\ list\ upon\ request-recent\ introductions.$ 

#### from CAROL and GEORGE LANKOW 725 - 20th Avenue W., Kirkland, WA 98033

SOUNDER—BB, 22". Sdlg. 7578-1: (Ruffled Cherub X 7225-21: (pink BB x I. aphylla Geneva S2)). A very nicely proportioned BB. The cool white stands and warm white falls are well substanced, gracefully formed, and poised on well-branched and budded stalks. Grows and makes a lovely clump. Fertile both ways, Sounder is giving very pleasing seedlings. \$20.00

**BRIQUET**—19". Sdlg. 6622-1: (Black Forest X Pigmy Gold). A neat and tidy little near MTB, Briquet is a very dark violet self with falls that glow with claret and bronze—like burning charcoal. The color is unusually rich and smooth. A difficult parent, but the few offspring display the same clean intensity of color. A modest little fellow that grows on you......\$12.50

Both of these and our previous IB introductions-COUNTRY DEEJAY, KERI and ANDI are available from:

Riverdale Iris Gardens, 7124 Riverdale Road, Minneapolis, MN 55430

BASHFUL BRIDE—TB, 33", L. Delicate light pink self with ruffled and fluted falls enhanced by a pink beard. Very vigorous with exceptional branching, producing 9 to 11 buds. Sdlg. #P7407. (Pink Taffeta X Blossom Pink)......\$25.00

COPPER CLASSIC—TB, 34", ML. Standards are copper, flushed pink. Falls are ruffled and lightly laced with a bright tangerine beard. Excellent substance with gold dusting overall. Increases well with 5 to 7 buds. A stand out in the garden. Winner of the 'Out of Region Trophy' as sdlg. 75-26 at the Region 14 meeting in San Jose 1977. (West Coast X New Moon). HC '77 and '79. \$22.50

RUFFLED BALLET, MOODY BLUE, MELLOW YELLOW available on request.

RODERICK IRIS GARDEN
1137 N. Main Street Desloge, Missouri 63601

#### BROWN'S SUNNYHILL GARDENS

Route 3. Box 102

Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

#### 1980 Introductions

- FLOWER NOTE (O. Brown '80). TB, 29", M. Wide-petaled Orient pink with heavy substance and velvety texture. Ruffled and frilled. Closed, rounded standards and flaring falls. Fire red beards. 7 blooms. Many admirers in the Melrose Garden during the '78 Convention. HC '78 under #73-11C5. (Cherry Acent X Instant Charm).......\$25.00

Send stamp for catalog.

#### GEORGE A. SHOOP

12560 S. W. Douglas

Portland, Oregon 97225

- SO RARE (Shoop '80). TB, 36", M. Ruffled bicolor. Large 7" blooms. Peach standards; lavender-rose falls with a smooth haft; tangerine beard. A nice, well-branched stalk. Excellent increaser. An iris in the upper class! #75-5. Blond Goddess X Bright View..........\$25.00
- DELPHI (Shoop '80). TB, 36", M. A truly blue amoena. No lavender influence. White standards; mid-blue falls; tangerine red beard. No haft markings. Well formed flower with light ruffling. Color slides show falls blue. Good stalk, branching and increase. #75-7: Blue amoena line with Whole Cloth in background. Exciting. . . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00
- FANCY TALES (Shoop '80). TB, 36", M. This is a bicolor-falled amoena with white standards. Falls are two colors—orange hafts extend half way down, then concord purple color finishes. Very startling! Tangerine beard. Fine plant, stalk and branching. Different and new! #75-22: Involving Whole Cloth, pink amoena seedlings, Wine and Roses. . \$25.00

Two of the above \$40.00

RINGO, CHINA DRAGON and PINK PLEASURE (all '79). . . \$20.00 each

#### 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

LADY SARA—Sdlg. 75-1049-5. TB, 38", ML. Warm white standards, shaded to deep yellow at base. Falls are light barium yellow with white overlay, creating a yellow border. Dark barium yellow hafts; cadmium orange beard. Domed standards; semi-flaring, slightly ruffled falls. Strong, well-branched stalks. (Marshmallow X Silver Shower). HC '79......\$25.00

KATY SUE-Sdlg. M49. BB, 25", ML. Heavily ruffled white ground plicata with light dauphin violet markings. Light orange beard tipped violet. (5th generation sib crosses from Easter Parade and Azurite). HC '79. . . . . . . . . . . . . \$15.00

### MINNICK'S GARDEN

C. R. (Bob) & Evelyn

324 N.E. Park Circle

Kansas City, MO 64116

#### PALMER'S IRIS GARDENS

#### Route I, Box 152 Geary, OK 73040

TWIST OF FATE: 32", EM. S. light violet-blue, deeper at base and veined darker blue-violet. F. black with velvety texture and amber shoulders. Few white haft veins, mostly hidden. Good substance. Light ruffling. Violet beard with bronze hair tips. 2 branches and spur. 7-9 buds, mostly opening one at a time, prolonging bloom season. Medium-sized flowers. 71-89: (((South Pacific x Whole Cloth) x Jet 

ELVA WILSON—IB, Palest violet-blue. \$15.00 RIPPLING SNOW—IB, ruffled white. \$15.00

LUXURIOUS—SDB, very ruffled WISTERIA DELIGHT-SDB. lavender.....\$ 7.50 wisteria blue..... \$ 7.50

Send stamp for list of select medians, talls and arilbreds.

Above Medians co-introduced with Riverdale Iris Gardens.

#### **NEVA SEXTON'S IRIS GARDEN**

1709 Third Street

Wasco, CA 93280

**PRINCE OF PEACE** (Sexton '80), M, 36".....\$25.00 First Snow X sib to Sea of Galilee. A beautiful, ruffled and fluted snow white iris. Cream white beard. Closed stands and flaring falls. The stalks are well branched with nine or more blooms per stalk.

JOY OF SPRINGTIME (Sexton '80), M, 36".....\$25.00 A frilled, fluted and heavy substanced iris of elegant form. The stands and falls both have heavy gold lace. Deep yellow beard. Wellbranched stalks with eight to nine buds per stalk.

> Price list on request. Add \$2.00 for postage. Extras with each order. Calif. residents, please add 6% sales tax.

#### GENE & GERRY'S GARDENS

39 East Patrick Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

**DREAM PINK** (Burger '80). Sdlg. J-29: Pink Fringe X Crystal City. TB, M, 34". Lovely ruffled pink self. Closed standards and flaring falls—beautiful ruffled form. Large flowers and good bloomstalks, carrying 3 branches and terminal with 9 buds. Excellent plant habits. . . . . . . \$25.00

#### Previous Introductions

Our other previous introductions are available. Most have won awards. Write for list. Please add \$2.00 for postage and handling when ordering.

#### WALTER A. MOORES

4233 Village Creek Road

Ft. Worth, TX 76119

#### 1980 Introductions

#### Tall Bearded

#### Reblooming Border

MISS SCARLETT—22", EM & RE (Oct. TX). Scarlet red with slight violet cast—a very searing color. Five fluted flowers with bushy bronze beards. Occasional open standards but are not distracting. Definitely NOT a short tall. Red Polish X Burnt Offering....\$15.00

#### Aril Median

ODE TO KALIFA—16", VE. Standards are pale blue flecked olive and dark blue. Falls are olive flecked blue and wine. Burnt orange beards are tipped white. The three to four buds with one branch open with the earliest dwarfs. Kalifa Hirfa X Bright Eyes. . . . \$ 7.50

We have had excellent rebloom reports from across the country on last year's introductions—DANTE'S INFERNO and PINK SACHET—priced \$12.50 each.

Send stamp for price list featuring many rebloomers. We like to think we are generous with extras.

#### 1980 Introductions

After 22 years of hybridizing, I now have time to introduce seedlings. The two introductions offered have bloomed every year and survived extreme temperatures well.

**BLONDE BEAUTY**—Sdlg. 69-1-CS: (Esther Fay X Orchid Jewel). The standards and falls are of light peach-ivory with pink undertones. Lightly ruffled falls. Both standards and falls are edged with lovely, light tinted, crinkled, orange lace. Orange beard. Fertile both ways......\$25.00

Shipping July 20 to September 1 as requested.

1712 Edgewood

JOHN E. GRIFFIN
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57103

### from BENNETT C. JONES

These previous introductions only this year:

#### SDB

RAIN DANCE—Deep bluebird blue self. Lovely color and form. An outstanding standard dwarf. 40 votes for HC......\$ 5.00

#### Intermediate

PEACHY FACE—Peach-white with large, deep peach spot on the falls. Judges' Choice 1978, top AM winner 1979. . . . . \$ 3.00

Please include \$1.50 for packing and shipping. Thank you.

5635 S. W. Boundary Street

Portland, Oregon 97221

#### 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

Marjo, Pink Madonna, Yellow Angel and Maple Honey. Write for price list.

#### JOE L. SAIA

726 Liberty St.

Helena, AR 72342

#### 1980 INTRODUCTIONS

CHARLES THOMAS-TB, 31", M. Light violet, fading slightly are	ound white
beard and haft. Closed standards. Well laced and ruffled. Crinkled Jo	y X Warm
Laughter	\$25.00

SHIELA KAY—SDB, 10", ML. White standards; falls have a bright yellow central area with white border. White beard tipped yellow. Lilaclil X Lenna M. . . . \$ 7.50

#### ALFRED T. WIRZ

40 McKinley Ave.

Kenmore, NY 14217

#### **BLODGETT IRIS GARDENS**

1008 E. Broadway

Waukesha, WI 53186

#### 1980 Introductions

WA WA (R. Blodgett). #D5079. SDB, 10", M-L. S. bright old gold; F. bright medium brown; orange beard tipped blue. 2-3 buds. (Gypsy Boy X sib). HC '79. . . . . . . \$10.00

#### Previous Introductions

CHIEF WAUKESHA	TB '78	\$15.00	PERSIAN MORN	TB '78	\$15.00
COPPER FLAME	TB '78	15.00	SNOWY OWL	TB '78	10.00
FAVORITE'S DAUGHTER	TB '79	20.00	PEACH FESTIVAL	BB '78	15.00
SNOW PIXIE	SDB '78	4.00	GYPSY BOY	SDB '78	4.00

No price list. Please order from this ad. Please include \$1.00 for postage and shipping.

#### M. A. D. IRIS — 1980 Mary and Bob Dunn's Garden

4828 Jella Way

North Highlands, CA 95660

STYLELITE (Bob Dunn). Very wide, ruffled white with texture veining. Standards a bit open, firmly held. Heavy substance, perfectly branched. ((Goodness x Celestial Snow) x ((Lady Angie x Valimar sib) x Winter Olympics)) X (Valimar sib x Winter Olympics).....\$25.00

MIDWAY (Mary Dunn). Multi-branched and budded, lightly ruffled medium blue-violet. Large white area in fall which extends up midribs. Substance and form good. Odyssey X (Foggy Dew x ((Tea Apron x Winter Olympics) x Artist's Dream))

No list—Please order from ad. Include \$2 handling and postage. California residents add sales tax. Shipment July 1 to August 15 only.

Also available Pagan, Capilight and Dream World.

#### WANTED FOR HISTORICAL IRIS LIBRARY

1939 AIS Checklist, Schreiner's catalogs—1931 and all earlier years. Also 1934, 1936 and 1938. Cooley's 1938 and all earlier years. Contact W. E. McClure, 3933 South 2775 West, Roy, UT 84067.

# D. & J. GARDENS

#### 1373 Coventry Road, Concord, CA 94518 Phone (415) 685-6489

We will issue no catalogue as we only intend to sell our own introductions—past and present. Prices of previous introductions will be furnished upon request. We also may be able to supply some of those hard to get items, so write. Please include \$2.00 handling cost with order. Will ship UPS wherever possible. Calif. residents add sales tax. Shipping mid-July unless requested otherwise.

#### INTRODUCING

Three superb white Japanese irises from the gardens of Jill (Mrs. James) Copeland, who has been hybridizing for the past ten years.

BURBOT—double, glowing green haft, light yellow stylearms. DACE—double, very pale blue, fading to white. WHITING—waxy white.

All have excellent substance.

Also, three of my own: **PRAIRIE ALLURE**—double, light purple bitone; **PRAIRIE DELIGHT**—single, violet-blue bitone; and **PRAIRIE VALOR**—double, violet-blue bitone. \$25.00 each

A. H. HAZZARD

510 Grand Pre Ave.

Kalamazoo, MI 49007

#### BION TOLMAN GARDENS — NEW IRIS FOR 1980 4399 Carol Jane Drive Salt Lake City, Utah 84117

SEA ADVENTURE—TB. Medium lilac-blue. Stalks 32" tall with 3 branches and terminal spur. Heavy substance, large blooms. White beard. Both falls and standards are ruffled. (Virginia Louise x Azure Lace) X self. \$25.00

#### Previous Introductions — 1979 to 1975

ESKIMO COUNTRY—See detailed description in the Spring, 1979, AIS Bulletin, page 64. Lovely white TB. \$20.00
ARRANGER'S DELIGHT—Ruffled purple BB; flaring falls. \$20.00
COOL WHIP—White standards; brassy yellow falls. IB. \$10.00
IT'S TOPS—Old gold stds.; flaring falls gold, washed brown. SDB. \$7.50
SALMON RUN—Rich salmon blend. SDB. \$7.50

1978: MAYAN DANCER (TB) \$15.00; SMOOTH SEAS (SIB) \$7.50; TURQUOISE

BEAUTY (SIB) \$7.50; ARC LIGHT (SPU) \$7.50.

BIG BROTHER (sib to Stitched Beauty) \$7.50; DARK TAPESTRY \$7.50; BALLET LACE \$7.50, STITCHED BEAUTY (outstanding stitched plicata) \$7.50.

PAGEANT QUEEN (large lavender with heavy substance) \$5.00.

Introductions prior to 1975 \$2.50 each:

HAPPY BELLS, FLAMINGO LACE, ROZON, PACIFIC WATERS, EL TITAN, FIESTA DAYS, FIESTA BAZAAR, HOLIDAY TIME, VIOLET GLOW, LUCILLE TOLMAN. These include laced pinks, blue, red, yellow, cream, deep violet and plicatas.

Eremurus make good companion plants to irises. They fill in between iris and daylilies. I now have a wide range of colors—white, cream, light, medium and deep yellow, light pink and several shades of orange. Labeled plants by color are available at \$25.00 for a collection of 12. Order Eremurus in June so plants can be labeled while in bloom. May be selected as extras with iris orders. Extras of equal value given with all cash orders.

Will trade. If interested, make offer.

#### MINIATURE TALL BEARDED IRISES

1980 Introduction: CHICKEE – MTB, 19". \$10 A ruffled, bright butter yellow self.	0.00	
Other MTB Introductions:		
FAIRY LACE ('79). Ruffled, very pale lemon yellow	7.50	
LEMON FLIRT ('79). Flaring lemon yellow	7.50	
SUPRISE BLUE ('79). Floriferous light violet-blue	7 50	

Price list of previous introductions sent on request.

#### MARY LOUISE DUNDERMAN

480 White Pond Drive

Akron, Ohio 44320

# Les Peterson—IRIS—New for 1980 1320 Murphy Lane • Salt Lake City, Utah 84106 Tall Bearded

PLICATA WHISPER—TB, 30" (76 cm), ML. Large, attractive, delicately colored plicata with standards of pale silver-gray; falls lighter (almost white) banded color of standards. Brown plicata markings with chartreuse undertone across hafts to tip of bronze beard. Bud count (7-8), branching and vigor good. Amanda Sings X Saddle Shoes. \$25.00

SINGTIME SPRINGTIME—TB, 36" (91 cm), ML. Tall, impressive flower. Standards clean white; falls white to end of medium yellow beard, balance splashed Indian blue (RHS 51/2). Bud count (8-9), branching, etc. splendid. Winter Dreams X President Farnsworth. Stock limited—one to a customer. . . . \$20.00

#### Arilbred

#### **Previous Introductions**

LE SEDNA ('77). The Silver Medal winner at Italy in 1979. Also awarded a medal for best red TB variety. Few still available at special discount price of \$15.00. SPANISH HARLEM, also a 'top ten' winner, same competition—a \$10.00 value—will be included as a bonus iris with each order.

Order from this ad—PLEASE

#### 1980 INTRODUCTION

STEADY PACE—TB, 30"-32", ML. Nicely formed, deep red-brown (near RHS 173A). Ruffled S. and F.; gold beard. Slight violet infusion at tip of beard. Three branches and branchlet. Seven or more medium-sized blooms. Retains color well in full sun—resistant to rain. \$25.00

Write for price list of earlier introductions.

# MRS. GRANT D. KEGERISE

501 Pennsylvania Ave.

Reading, PA 19605

#### LA CRESTA GARDENS of Maryann M. Anning

#### 12864 Viscaino Road

Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
Closed violet standards over dove-

These irises are being co-introduced with Hooker Nichols and are available from either garden.

**SLEEPY LAGOON** (Spahn '80). TB, 35", E-M. Ruffled, lavender-rose self, lighter near muted tangerine beard. Broad, semi-flaring falls. Average 9-10 buds, can hold 4 open. Sdlg. 72D3. (Dreamtime X Springtime Fantasy). \$25.00

#### **Previous Introductions**

For descriptions see past Spring Bulletins.

BESAME MUCHO	′79	\$20.00	LIEBESTRAUM	′78	\$15.00
MEXICALI ROSE	′79	\$20.00	SLEEPYTIME GAL	′78	\$15.00
SOPHISTICATED LADY	′79	\$20.00	ISLE OF CAPRI	′77	\$12.50
BRAHMS' LULLABY	′78	\$15.00	SUNRISE SYMPHONY	′77	\$10.00

Purchase any 1980 introduction, and I will include another, my choice, as an extra. Or, get all 3 for \$40. Ask for discount prices on others.

#### FRED E. SPAHN

1229 Lincoln Ave.

Dubuque, Iowa 52001

#### **PAUL H. DENNIS**

#### 702 South Oak Grove Avenue

#### Springfield, MO 65802

#### 1980 INTRODUCTION

GYPSY MAGIC (Dennis '80). TB. 30". EM. Sdlg. 77-4: (Mauna Loa Magic X Tambourine). Domed standards of light yellow. Wide, semi-flaring falls of light violet feather-shading to an uneven border of dark orange. Yellow beard. Lightly ruffled. As colorful and mysterious as the dress of the wandering gypsies of the past. Not as tall as I would like but the stalks, bearing two branches and terminal, stand up well in the strong winds that seem to be a part of the bloom season here in the Ozarks. \$25.00

#### **PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS**

TOMORROW'S DREAM (Dennis '78). TB. 40". ML. Light violet.	
Red beard. Ruffled\$10.	.00
WHISPERING BREEZE (Dennis '78). TB. 38". ML. Pale violet.	
Yellow shoulders. Laced and ruffled	.00

Order GYPSY MAGIC and I will include Tomorrow's Dream and Whispering Breeze as extras. Bonuses on all orders. No catalog.

# BOSWELL IRIS GARDEN Carl and LaRue

#### 1821 Gross Lane

#### Concord, CA 94519

This is the first year that we have introduced our own irises. Only our own iris will be available. Order from this ad.

- PLUM PLUM (Carl Boswell 1980). SDB, 13", #111-73-2: (Bloodspot X Ruby Contrast). As the name implies, it is a gorgeous plum color with a darker spot in the center of flaring falls, with blue beard. Well domed. A stand out in the garden—fairly shouts "Look at Me"! . . . . . . . \$ 7.50

July Shipment, Postpaid

#### KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. Box 8173

### Stockton, California 95208

Introducing in 1980 .....

See January Bulletin for more complete descriptions or write for catalogue.

#### COME 'N' LOOK GARDENS

Declo, Idaho 83323

HAPPY LAUGHTER (L. Blackley '80) 40", M. ((All Eternity x (Revel x
Pretty Gay)) x Cool Flame) X Tell #106B (sib to Big Peach). Big, frothy, ruf-
fled and laced white with closed S. and wide, flaring, broad-petaled F., adorned
with bright tangerine beard. Ruffles and froth, like water rushing down a
cataract. Good substance and well-spaced branches, the lower one often re-
branched, bearing 10-12 or more buds, giving a long bloom season. Good
increaser

LORD ALLBRIGHT (L. Blackley '80) 30", EM-VL. Commentary X (Caribou Trail x Lady Allbright). Lovely garnet-wine blend. Plum Dazzle from the red side with much the same form. A self except for brown hafts beside a gold beard, orange in throat. Two and sometimes three branches and sub-terminal with 7-9 buds. Fine form, good substance, long bloom season and rich coloring. Its only fault is that branching is a bit variable, and in some seasons, a little bunchy. \$25.00

LOVE'S DAWNING (L. Blackley '80) 33", M. (Rosie O'Day x (Mary Randall x Black Rose)) X Martinique. Sib to Rippled Silver, but entirely different, being a clean mauve-pink, opening from orchid-colored buds. The clear pink ground is overlaid by a pale blue wash, giving a somewhat different mauve-pink effect, not in the least muddy. Good form with closed S. and flaring F., all lightly laced and set off by a tangerine beard tipped violet. Two or three branches and sub-terminal, with 2 buds per socket. Good substance. A real lovel

RUSSET GLOW (Blackley '80) 33", M. (Mary Randall x Frankly Red) X (Apricot Dream x Treasure Mountain). Two branches and a terminal bear 6 or 7 buds, opening to ruffled golden-russet flowers with closed S., slightly lighter in center and a greenish midrib. Flaring, ruffled F., slightly darker than S., shading to golden russet in the center, with russet-gold beards. Good form and substance and a glowing color seldom found in the russets, due perhaps to the predominantly pink breeding......\$25.00

#### SLADE IRIS GARDENS

Route 5, Box 153A

Cynthiana, KY 41031

#### HAMNER'S IRIS GARDEN

960 No. Perris Blvd.

Perris, CA 92370

#### 1980 Introductions

- COLOR BURST: TB, M-L. An exciting, colorful iris with flashy copper bronze stands and imperial purple falls. The ruffled, round falls are banded copper bronze. Excellent branching and bud count. Beard is orange. This colorful beauty will be a welcome addition for your iris patch. A garden favorite. Sdlg. 75-5. Chamber Music X Gypsy Belle.

  \$25.00
- **LEMON CURLS:** TB, 32-34", M-L. Frilly, ruffled, lemon yellow self. Stands are closed and the wide falls are lightly banded a deeper shade of yellow. Substance, branching and bud count are excellent. Beard is golden. This pastel beauty has great garden value as a late bloomer. Sdlg. 74-61. (New Moon x Gypsy Rings) X Madiera Belle. . . . \$25.00
- ROYAL JUBILEE: TB, 36-38", M. This outstanding iris has closed stands of antique gold with flaring falls a deep shade of violet-purple, banded antique gold. All petal parts are nicely ruffled. Beard is golden bronze tipped violet. Sdlg. 65-82. Gypsy Belle X Gala Madrid. Won an E.C. at the San Diego show in 1978. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

Price list sent by request.



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Best of new and old IRIS

Tall Bearded

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See our ad in April Bulletin

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Grower of

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Over 300 varieties. List on request.

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October issue ..... July 15

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Tall Bearded irises of quality and vigor REBLOOMING SPECIALISTS

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# SPRING BLOOMING VARIETIES

Extensive listing of newer introductions

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AERIALIST—TB. A dainty flyer in salmon lace, often performing at 40" with no net! My favorite, with muscles she hasn't used. Would have called her Chartreuse Butterfly, but not chartreuse. Haven't many so don't really care if you keep super section of the sale of the sa

CLOSE ORDER FRILLS—TB. Flares open in rose and lightens to a frilly salmon ball. Thumb-in-the-eye beard of cerise makes this spectacular. If your flower growing friends don't comment on a clump of this, you might ASK for your money back. Doesn't stick up into the wind, so can't blow down.....\$15.00

COMPEER—TB. A Frank word from the Latin, especially translated "Yet another red-bearded lav-blue". The name invites you to compare. If you do pinch this one, you'll find the thickest petals ever to venture out of the patch, and in excellent form, too. I wouldn't let you pinch MY Muscle for a mere . . . . . . . . . . . . \$20.00

cacii's creations for '80 are fertile one way or another. If you have the impulse, send your check, and include a name and address if you'd like to:

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# Introducing





Acrobat

Fan Club

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FAN CLUB (Glennys Dalton '80) presents a color gem: A rich, smooth, creamy shade of luscious peach-pink, highlighted by coral-red beards. The flowers are wide, ruffled and rounded. HC '78. Pink Sleigh X Greenan Castle. \$25.00

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Acclamation (Glenn F. Corlew 1980)



Storybook (Glenn F. Corlew 1980)

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ACCLAMATION—Tall, stately yellow. HC 1978	.\$25.00
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I L N



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